

No. 2.



April-June,  
1913.

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.  
Labour and Industrial Branch.  
Melbourne, Australia.

# LABOUR BULLETIN

(PUBLISHED QUARTERLY)

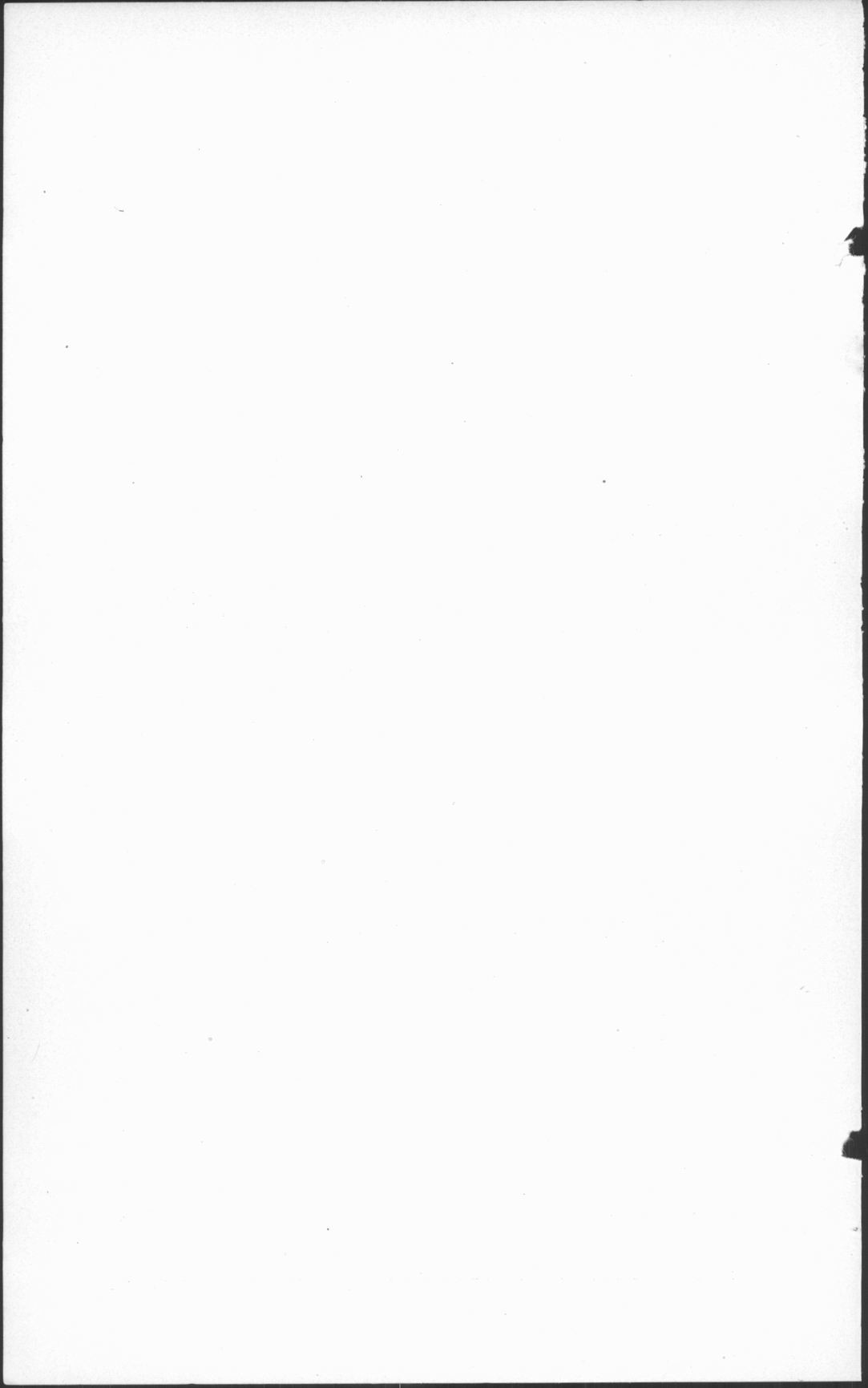
Prepared under Instructions from the  
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

By

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August, 1913.

By Authority:  
McCARRON, BIRD & CO., Printers, 479 Collins Street, Melbourne.

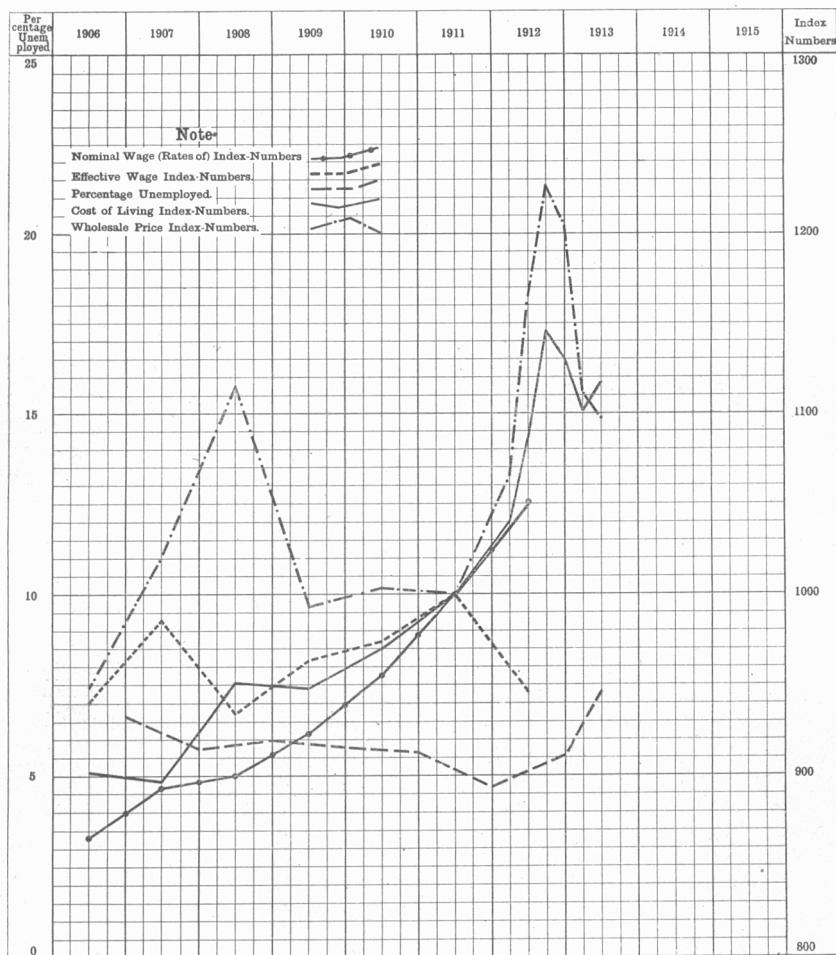




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# Cost of Living, Wholesale Prices and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers and Percentage of Unemployed.



EXPLANATORY NOTE.—The scale on the left represents the scale for the percentage of persons unemployed according to trade union returns. The figures on the right represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911 the index-numbers for cost of living (average for the six metropolitan towns), and for wholesale prices (Melbourne) are shewn each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shewn quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. Unemployment figures for previous years are shewn as at the end of each year, while other index-numbers refer to the average for the whole year. Nominal and effective wage index-numbers are only computed annually.

# LABOUR BULLETIN.

No. 2.—APRIL to JUNE, 1913.

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## SECTION I.—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

1. **General.**—A review of the reports received as to industrial conditions during the last quarter indicates that general conditions as to trade and labour remained quiet. There was, however, an increase in activity in several industries, and the prospects of an improvement during the ensuing months are generally stated to be good. In considering the industrial conditions it should be borne in mind that the past quarter included part of the midwinter period, when various seasonal trades are dull and less active than in the summer months. Broadly speaking, conditions seem to have been more favourable in the eastern part of the continent, including practically the whole of New South Wales and Queensland, than in either the southern or western States.

The percentage of persons unemployed in the Commonwealth, according to returns received from trade unions, increased since the preceding quarter (January to March) from 6.4 to 7.3, the increase being most marked in the clothing, food, timber, and building trades. In New South Wales, however, there was a slight decrease in unemployment, while in Queensland the figures were practically the same as in the preceding quarter. In each of the other four States there was an increase. In South Australia conditions were reported to be worse than in the other States, the percentage of unemployed, according to the trade-union returns, having increased from 5.5 in the preceding quarter to 8.8.

In spite of this aggregate increase in unemployment, many industries are reported to have continued to be active throughout the quarter in most of the States. The engineering and iron trades are stated to have continued to be generally active, as also were the electrical, furniture, and various other manufacturing industries. In several of the States the officers of the Government Labour Exchanges continued to draw attention to the difficulty in procuring suitable men for work in country districts.

The reports received from various sources indicate that the main causes alleged for the increase in unemployment in Victoria were the

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NOTE.—The Labour Bulletin, in its accounts of proceedings, abstracts of reports, legal decisions, quotations and other matters of concern to labour, is not to be regarded as expressing an official endorsement of any of the views or opinions contained therein.

high cost of building materials and the financial stringency, the seasonal slackness in the meat and other food industries, the arrival of tradesmen from overseas, and in the ready-made clothing trade the overstocking of warehouses. In South Australia, in addition to the usual winter slackness in various seasonal industries, the main reasons alleged for the increase in unemployment are:—(a) The unfavourable conditions resulting from want of rain over practically the whole of the State, and (b) the holding in abeyance of various works authorised by Parliament and the consequent discharging of men who had been engaged on public works. In Western Australia most industries appear to have been fairly busy, though it is alleged that there was a considerable number of unskilled labourers out of employment. In Tasmania, except for some seasonal slackness, conditions appear to be very satisfactory, and prospects for the immediate future encouraging.

**2. Weather Conditions and Rural Industries.**—In the three eastern States, New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, the rainfall during the quarter was generally adequate, and this, combined with a mild temperature, has practically assured a good season, favourable reports having been received from nearly all quarters with regard to stock, grass, and crops. In South Australia and Tasmania, on the other hand, adverse conditions have prevailed. In these two States there has been a shortage of rainfall, in fact, June of 1913 was the driest June ever known at the Observatory at Adelaide. In consequence of these facts, reports from South Australia are unfavourable, grass has dried up, crops are backward, and stock has lost condition, so that, on the whole, the outlook for the rural industries in this State is not promising.

In Western Australia conditions improved considerably towards the end of the quarter, and a good season is said to be practically assured. In the following paragraphs the conditions of stock, crops, etc., in each individual State are given separately:—

(i) *New South Wales.*—General heavy rains fell during the quarter over the whole of this State, with the exceptions of the western district, where there was an almost total absence of rain, and the southern tableland and Riverina districts, where useful rains fell in May and June only. In the coastal districts the rainfall in May was so heavy that in several places a record was established, exceeding that for any previous month. Many places experienced floods, that on the Hunter River being reported to be the highest since 1893, and considerable destruction of property in Singleton and Maitland was caused. The temperature during the quarter was generally mild. The maize crops on the north coast are stated to be the best and heaviest for years. Other crops are well forward, and stock is stated to be in good condition. It is reported that, on the whole, the season is one of the best which has been known for years, but at the same time the heavy rains have somewhat seriously interfered with the harvesting of the citrus and potato crops in some districts, and have delayed sugar cane cutting on the north coast. In the extreme west, however, the opposite conditions prevailed, and want of rain was seriously felt over a great stretch of the West Darling country. Feed

was scarce only in places, but the lack of water and the fact that most of the tanks on the stock routes were empty was causing anxiety to pastoralists.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—The rainfall was in most places below the average in April and June, but in May it was above the average, and it fell at such opportune times that it was in sufficient quantity to ensure a good season. In the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern Plains country the rains which fell at the end of March and at the beginning of April, as well as at the beginning and end of May, caused feed to be abundant, stock to be in good condition, a high lambing percentage to be assured, and all agricultural operations to be carried on under favourable auspices. It is stated that the outlook leaves nothing to be desired. In the North central and North-east districts the country is looking splendid, and heavy crops of potatoes and maize are expected. In the Western, Central-South and Gippsland districts the conditions are so good that the autumn has been pronounced the best for many years. The only district which did not share in the general prosperity is the Western Wimmera, where the grass is stated to be poor and crops are backward.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—In all the districts, with the exception of the Darling Downs and South Coast Moreton, reports are uniformly good, grass being plentiful, water abundant, and stock in good condition. It is stated that present conditions point to a record season. The Darling Downs district was experiencing a drought at the beginning of the quarter, but towards the end of May and during June good rains fell which quite altered the aspect, so that by the end of the quarter stock was in fair to good condition, and grass and crops making rapid growth. The Moreton district was also affected by dryness during the early part of the quarter. Reports varied greatly, in some places stock was poor, in others good, but the rains in the last week of May and during June improved matters considerably. At the end of that month stock was reported to be in good condition, grass and water assured for the winter, and crops for the most part flourishing.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—During the past quarter practically the whole of the State experienced very dry weather, and observers in nearly every district reported for each month inadequate rainfall, feed withered, stock poor, and crops backward. The South-eastern district is the only one in which the outlook is at all promising, and in that quarter the crops are stated to be satisfactory and the grass good. On the whole, the prospects for the season are at present not promising.

(v.) *Western Australia*.—In the North coastal districts the pasture was dry during April and May, but the rains in June gave the grass a good start, and stock, which was still in fair condition during the first two months, commenced to improve during the third. In the same district the early crops, which looked promising in April, shewed very little growth in May, but made good progress again, owing to the timely and soaking rain in June, and there is every prospect of a good season. In the southern half of the South-west district grass is reported as coming on well, stock good, and crops, especially of potatoes, good. In

the northern half feed was dry and scarce during April and May, but improved during June in consequence of the rainfall, which was above the average in that district during the month. The lambing season is reported as good, returns at places ranging from 80 to 90 per cent. June was a favourable month for both pastoralists and agriculturists, the rains being timely and soaking, while frosts were generally few and light, so that, on the whole, the outlook for the season in Western Australia is promising.

(vi.) *Tasmania*.—Except for some good rains at the end of April, the weather during the quarter was dry, June having been one of the driest months experienced for years, hence there has been little or no growth of grass, and the outlook for feed is unsatisfactory. The condition of stock, which was generally reported as good in April and May, is stated to be only fair in June. Crops have suffered from the prevailing dry season and are backward, although potatoes are reported to be coming on well in some districts.

**3. Variations in Prices and Cost of Living.**—The cost of living index-number for 30 of the more important towns in the Commonwealth rose from 998 in the first quarter of the year to 1012 in the quarter under review, compared with 1000 for the whole of the year 1912. It should be remarked, however, that whereas the second quarter of 1912 shewed an increase of no less than 4.3 per cent. on the first quarter of that year, the increase in the past quarter amounts to only 1.4 per cent. The experience of past years shews that during the three months under review (being winter months) cost of living may be expected to shew an increase owing to seasonal change in price. Nevertheless the relatively small increase which occurred in the past quarter indicates that the upward trend which was so strongly evidenced in 1912 is not being maintained during the current year. The increase during the last quarter occurred in all States and was common to all groups (Groceries, Dairy Produce, Meat, and House Rent).

**4. Wholesale Prices.**—While there was an increase in the cost of living during the quarter, wholesale prices declined, the index-number for the quarter standing at 1095, compared with 1112 for the preceding quarter, a fall of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The index-number for the second quarter of 1912 was 1165, and the price level for 1913 was therefore considerably lower than in the corresponding period last year. Reference to the graph on page 80 shews that whereas the second quarter of 1912 was characterised by a rapid increase (from 1065 to 1165), the quarter under review shewed a decline. The fall in price occurred mainly in commodities included in the agricultural and dairy produce groups.

**4. Import and Export Index-Numbers.**—In addition to the quarterly cost of living and wholesale price index-numbers, price levels are computed annually from the export and import values obtained from the trade and customs returns. These import and export index-numbers correspond closely both as regards scope and character to the so-called "wholesale" price index-numbers published by the Board of Trade, London. The results for the year 1912 shew that there was a rise since

the preceding year from 1000 to 1067. This gives an increase of only  $6\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., compared with an increase of no less than 17 per cent. in wholesale prices and 10 per cent. in cost of living.

**6. Industrial Disputes.**—The total number of disputes which began during the quarter under review was 49, compared with 39 during the preceding quarter. Of the former number no fewer than 35 occurred in New South Wales. At the end of the preceding quarter there were four disputes in existence. In the new disputes 8972 persons were directly, and 7858 indirectly, involved, giving a total of 16,830. The total number of working days lost in both new and old disputes was 265,302, and the estimated loss in wages £131,008. The principal disputes occurring during the quarter were the Silverton Tramway strike at Broken Hill, the railway porters at Darling Harbour (Sydney) and the miners on the Cloncurry field in Queensland. During the quarter the strike of miners on the South Coast coal-fields of New South Wales was terminated. A considerable number of minor disputes occurred on the northern coal-fields.

**7. Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The number of changes reported during the quarter was 81, of which 35 occurred in New South Wales and 19 in Victoria. The total number of persons affected was 41,217, and the aggregate amount of increase in wages per week was £8751, or 4s. 3d. per head per week. The largest number of persons affected in any single industrial group was in Other Manufacturing, in which 10,532 persons obtained increases aggregating £1936 per week. No changes resulting in decreases in rates of wages were reported during the quarter.

**8. Miscellaneous.**—During the quarter 9344 assisted and nominated immigrants, comprising 4933 dependents, arrived in the Commonwealth, as compared with 11,520 during the preceding quarter. The greatest number (3420) is reported from Victoria. As regards occupations, of the males no less than 1356 are classified in the agricultural, pastoral, etc., group and of the females 1110 are domestic servants.

The State Government free employment bureaux report that during the quarter 26,127 registrations were received from persons seeking employment. During the same period 9601 applications were received from employers and 8346 positions were filled.

The number of fatal accidents reported during the quarter was 42, and of other accidents causing incapacitation from work for over 14 days was 1102. The corresponding figures for the preceding quarter were 52 and 1087 respectively. The industry in which most of these accidents occurred was the mining.



## SECTION II.—REPORTS FROM INDUSTRIAL CENTRES.\*

## (A)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. **Sydney.**—During the early part of the second quarter of this year the general condition of the labour market in Sydney is stated to have been only fair, the supply having been somewhat in excess of the demand, with the exception of bridge-carpenters, plumbers and slaters. During May, however, employment is reported to have been fairly good, most of the trades shewing a decided improvement, which was maintained generally during the remainder of the quarter. This improvement is said to have been particularly noticeable in the building trades in which, with the exception of stonemasons and plasterers, conditions were better than for some months past. Plumbers were exceptionally busy towards the latter part of the quarter, while bridge-carpenters for country work were practically unobtainable.

The demand for labour in the iron and engineering trades was generally good and plenty of work was available. The continued construction of locomotives, together with the warship building at Cockatoo Dock, and the large amount of steel work required in new buildings, absorbs a large number of boiler-makers, engineers, labourers, etc. No actual shortage, could, however, be said to exist, the supply being just about equal to the demand. The acceptance of a tender by a Sydney firm for the supply of a large quantity of cast-iron pipes will necessitate the employment of a considerable number of men.

Government works, such as new railways, sewerage and construction works and brickworks, continued to provide employment for a large number of men, about 3000 being occupied in this connection. Over 1200 men were engaged during the quarter by the Labour Bureau of the Public Works Department. Employment in the various sections of manufacturing industries is reported to have been fairly good, though it is said that employers generally experienced no difficulty in securing all the labour required. Employment in the tailoring and ready-made clothing trades is reported to be bad, but in textile industries good. It is alleged that a quantity of clothes are being ordered from Adelaide on account of cheaper labour in that town. It is stated that imports of boots and saddlery are adversely affecting the leather trades. Brick-making is reported to have suffered on account of the wet weather. Motor transport workers complain that the high price of petrol is restricting this branch of transport, but other carrying trades are reported good. The supply of unskilled labour in June is stated to have been considerably in excess of the demand. It is, moreover, reported that adverse weather conditions, especially in the early part of that month, resulted in many idle days for stonemasons, bricklayers, carpenters, painters, brickmakers, carters, labourers and building and out-door workers generally.

\* Compiled from revised reports of agents and correspondents supplemented by other sources of information. See also Note at foot of page 81.



In the country districts of the State the general conditions remained good throughout the quarter. By the end of June the heavy rains had for the most part ceased, giving rise to prospects reported as promising in many districts. A high percentage of good reports were received by the State Labour Bureau concerning the pastoral, agricultural, and dairying industries throughout the State, while the prospects of the mining industry were stated to be generally improving.

In continuation of the industrial unrest evidenced towards the end of the preceding quarter a large number of industrial disputes, some of a serious nature, occurred in Sydney in April and May. Particulars of these disputes may be found in Section VI. (Industrial Disputes) of this Bulletin. As a result of these numerous disputes, and more especially of the strike of railway employees at Darling Harbour (which was partly due to the existence of rival railway unions and to the cancellation by the Industrial Court of the registration as an industrial union of the Amalgamated Railway and Tramway Service Association), a Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire into the working and administration of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912. The scope of this Commission is wide. It embraces the principles adopted in constituting industrial boards, questions which arose out of the railway strike, the amendment of the Act to expedite the decisions of boards, the provision of more effective means for the prevention of strikes and lockouts and for the enforcement of the provisions of awards, and the relation of awards under the Act to the Early Closing Act.

Under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, any person who does anything in the nature of a strike is liable to a penalty of £50, and it was officially stated that persons taking part in strikes, which are "of public or general consequence" were to be prosecuted. Proceedings have already been taken against persons participating in the railway, ferry boat, and gas strikes, and it is understood that proceedings against Broken Hill strikers are pending. In the case of the railway employees strike a fine of £7 was imposed on each porter and of £10 on each leading porter. In the ferry boat strike fines generally of £7 or £8 each were imposed, while in the gas strike the amount of the penalty was £8. In the case of each fine the sum of one guinea was ordered to be paid as costs.

In May the annual conference of the Metalliferous Miners' Association was held at Sydney. Amongst other matters it was decided to ask the Government to insert a clause in the new Mines Act making contract or piece work illegal. Arrangements are being made for a federation of the whole of the waterside workers, and rules have been drafted under which the new body will be known as the Transport Workers' Federation. The Federated Waterside Workers' Union and the Merchant Service Guild have agreed to accept the draft constitution, which has been drafted so as to include also the Australasian Institute of Marine Engineers, the Federated Seamen's Union, and the Federated Carters' and Drivers' Union. The proposals for the amalgamation of the United Labourers' Union and Railway Workers and General Labourers' Association have fallen through.

Work has been commenced on the Government central meat distributing depot, and what is claimed to be the largest brickworks in Australia is beginning operations at Clyde, N.S.W. It is reported that the

Employers' Federation is considering a scheme of closer organisation, but that no definite action has yet been taken.

**2. Newcastle.**—From reports received it appears that there was but little change during the quarter in trade and business and the state of the labour market. Skilled men are stated to have been generally fully engaged, but a number of unskilled labourers were unable to obtain work. It is said that the unemployment among the latter was partly due to the arrival of a number of men in the district in view of the report that the new steel works would require a large number of men. The floods in May, consequent on the heavy rains, caused considerable damage and distress in the district and were responsible for the suspension of railway traffic and stoppage of work in some of the mines. Coal mining is reported to have been active, though considerable trouble was caused by stoppage of work owing to industrial disputes in some of the mines. During the quarter no fewer than 21 stoppages for that reason occurred in the northern colliery district. These ranged in duration from four hours to six days. During the latter part of the quarter it is stated that owing to inadequate coaling facilities for loading bunker coal serious delay was caused, and this is held to be responsible for considerable slackness among the wharf labourers during June. Coal trimmers were, however, very busy, working night and day, at times several vessels were waiting their turn to load. The quadruplication works on the railway line between Maitland and Newcastle, in order to provide for the quicker despatch of coal, furnished employment for a number of men. At Boolaroo new works have been established for the manufacture of chemical manure from the crude phosphates imported from Ocean Island, and it is stated that this industry will shortly give employment to three or four hundred men. The building trades are reported to be very busy.

After prolonged negotiations between the Department of Labour and Industry, the Colliery Proprietors' Association, and the Colliery Employees' Federation, a special wages board for the district has been established under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, and held its first sitting on the 30th July last. It is reported that the Illawarra (south coast) colliery employees have arranged with the northern district miners to send representatives to a conference, which it is proposed to hold in September, with the object of bringing about a closer union between the miners of the north, south, and west coalfields of New South Wales, of New Zealand, and of the waterside workers.

**3. Broken Hill.**—At the beginning of the quarter industrial activity was seriously disturbed by the stoppage of work (on the 1st April) on the Silverton Tramway Company's line, which arose out of the dispute as to the "non-unionist" question. Particulars of this dispute may be found in section VI. hereof. Owing partly to the lack of transport facilities and partly to separate disputes on the "non-unionist" question, several of the mines were obliged to close down for short periods, ranging from one hour to two days, and as a result the output for April was below the average. Work was resumed on the 21st April, and nominal conditions soon prevailed. It is reported that during the whole of the quarter there was an excess

of unskilled labour available. The building trades are stated to have been fairly active in April, but slack towards the end of the quarter. It is stated that the retaining wall on the weir at the Uumberberka water-supply works is completed and that a number of men have been discharged. The laying of the main pipe lines is now in progress, and the pumping station has yet to be erected. The industrial agreements made between the mining companies and the Federated Engine Drivers' Association in June, 1911, have been renewed until the end of June, 1915.

### (B)—VICTORIA.

1. **Melbourne.**—Though there was some slight improvement at the beginning of the quarter in certain branches of employment, it is reported that the labour market generally was slack, a greater number of workers being out of employment than in the preceding quarter. The building trade was generally reported to be very quiet. Various reasons are assigned for the inactivity in this branch of industry, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that it is due partly to the high price of building materials and partly to the fact that several large contracts had recently been finished and that new works were not being commenced owing to the stringency of the money market. It is stated that the new building which is being erected by the Postmaster General's department and the alterations which are to be effected at the Spencer-street railway station will relieve the pressure to some extent. It is also stated that the advent of the shearing season and the contracts for the supply of rolling stock, etc., for the transcontinental railway will help to improve matters in the near future. The work which is being carried on in regard to the construction of the naval base at Westernport is also stated to have relieved the labour market in the metropolitan area. Several demonstrations of the unemployed were held during the quarter, and deputations awaited on both Commonwealth and State Ministers and other public officers. Steps have been taken by the State Government and the City Council to relieve the congestion by pushing on with public works.

As regards manufacturing industries conditions were reported to be generally quiet, though they may be considered satisfactory for the time of year. Several industries, such as agricultural implement and boot making, shewed signs of increased activity. The clothing trade is reported to be busy, mainly on account of the contracts for military clothing. The sawmilling industry is stated to be very quiet on account of the slackness in the building trade. It is reported that no fewer than 10 bush sawmills ceased operations in May and June. The engineering and iron trade is reported to have been slack, but the opening of the State shipbuilding yard at Williamstown, erected at a cost of £50,000, is expected to keep 400 men in constant employment. It is stated that at the time of opening, work was in sight to the value of £200,000. The cycle trade is reported to be suffering from the usual winter slackness. In the furnishing trades it is alleged that immigrants are causing an excess of employees over the number required. The artificial manure industry is reported to be good, but the brick, tile and pottery, fellmongering, jewellery, and leather trades are all quiet.

During the quarter several conferences of trade-unions were held in Melbourne. These include the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the Tanners and Curriers, and the Ironworkers' Assistants' Unions and the Enginedrivers and the Federated Miners' Associations.

The Building Trades Unions have organised a central council, and efforts are being made towards closer organisation with a view to giving the council absolute power to deal with disputes. It is understood that the trade-unions in the iron industries and the unions engaged in the production and distribution of food-stuffs are also organising a council on similar lines. It is intended that these central organisations shall take combined action in regard to any matter affecting the interests of any one or individual union concerned.

2. **Bendigo.**—The general state of trade and industrial activity during the quarter was satisfactory. The building trade is stated to have been normal during April and May and active during June. Nearly all bricklayers, carpenters and painters found constant employment, and prospects for the remaining winter months are said to be encouraging. The engineering and ironfounders' trades are stated to have been quiet, only a few new plants for the mines being under construction. This is stated to be due to the comparatively frequent sales of second-hand plants from mines that have ceased operations. Boilermakers were busy and employed full time, being engaged chiefly with orders for plant from other parts of the State and Commonwealth. The food production and distributing trades were all active.

Though the gold-mining industry is reported to have been quiet and the output from the mines not large, the number of miners and enginedrivers employed compared favourably with previous years. A recrudescence of the non-unionist question created some unrest in the district since a general ballot of members of the Federated Mining Employees' Association declared against working with non-unionists after the 31st May. Though a general stoppage of work was, however, averted, three of the mines ceased operations on the 30th June, affecting about 150 men. Some of the miners who were out of work are reported to have left the district and to have gone to Broken Hill.

3. **Geelong.**—In the second quarter of the year, covering part of the mid-winter period, business is reported to have been generally rather dull and less active than during the preceding months. It is stated that there was a number of unskilled workers, including new arrivals, out of employment, though apparently all those who were able and willing to go into the country districts could obtain work. The majority of the farmers having finished seeding, the demand for farm labour was not so good towards the end of the quarter. The building trades were slacker than during the early part of the year, a number of men being reported out of work. Unfortunately little improvement is anticipated in these trades during the next month or two. The various factories and mills in the district were busy. The rope mills are stated to have been working double shifts in May, while the woollen mills succeeded in securing contracts for the supply of cloth to the Defence Department. The erection of the Commonwealth woollen mills is proceeding and is expected to provide employment for about 300 hands when in full running order.

The completion of the line from Gheringhap to Maroona opened up a large tract of first-class agricultural land. The railway department had a number of men on repairing work and putting in new sidings between Geelong and Colac.

A dispute in connection with the work on the sewerage contract led to a stoppage of work on the 25th June. The men claimed an increase from 8 to 9 shillings a day. About 170 men were affected, and the dispute had not been settled at the close of the quarter.

### (C)—QUEENSLAND.

1. **Brisbane.**—The general condition of the labour market during the past quarter is reported to have been fair, the alleged causes of the slackness being the stringency of the money market, and the unsettled state of affairs pending and succeeding the general elections. There has been but little demand for additional labour in any of the various trades or in connection with unskilled workers. It is, however, generally acknowledged that this is one of the quiet parts of the year with regard to general employment. The building trades are reported to have been specially slack. Employment in the boot and shoe industry is stated to be good, but the clothing trades are quiet, consequent upon the change of seasons. The engineering and iron trades are reported to be busy, though there was apparently some unemployment among boilermakers. The coal mining industry in Queensland is stated to be brisk, owing partly to the dispute on the south coast coalfields in New South Wales and the consequent shortage of supplies from these fields. Enginedrivers and firemen report employment to be quiet on account of the slack season in the sugar mills. Most of the mills, however, started during June.

The Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union held their ninth conference at Brisbane in April, and in May representatives from various sub-branches of the Enginedrivers' Association met and agreed to unite as the Southern Queensland branch of the Australian Federation. In June the first meeting of the executive officers of the Queensland branch of the Australian Workers' Union was held, and the first definite stages of amalgamation between that body and the Amalgamated Workers' Association were accomplished.

At a conference between representatives of the A.W.U., the Cairns Canegrowers' Association, and the Mulgrave mill directors, held at Cairns in June, an agreement was arrived at for the coming crushing season. The rates for cutting adopted were the same as last year, based on 5s. 6d. a ton for a 15-ton crop, and ranging to 10s. a ton for a 6-ton crop, with 6d. a ton extra for cane cut on unploughed and boggy land. All roads to be made by the employer. In the event of failure to agree on a price for cutting a crop below 6 tons an acre, the men may refuse to cut it. The reduction for burnt cane was fixed at 1s. a ton, which is the same as last year. The agreement also provides that 1s. 6d. an hour per man must be paid for all time occupied in shifting camp, including transit and erecting tents. For extinguishing fires in cane, 2s. an hour per man is to be paid. The retention money was fixed at 9d. a ton, instead of 1s. as formerly.

2. **Bundaberg.**—The conditions of labour supply and demand throughout the district during the past quarter are described as quiet, owing mainly to the incessant showery weather which has hindered the progress of outdoor work. It is stated that there was a number of men out of work, and that there had been rather an influx of unskilled labour. The sugar crop was ready for cultivation, and if favourable conditions prevailed it is expected that a record harvest will be obtained, and all available labour absorbed. Both the iron moulding and the building trades are reported to have been very active, though the latter was somewhat hampered by the unsettled weather.

3. **Townsville.**—Trade and labour conditions generally are reported as good, especially towards the end of the quarter. Matters are generally good at this time of year, as most of the works are making a start for the season, and it is stated that there is a very prosperous outlook for persons in search of work. Copper mining still continues to be active, and several new claims have been worked. A fair amount of developmental work has been done, and the Chillagoe Company restarted their smelting operations in May after a temporary stoppage of some weeks. About 400 men are employed at the smelters. The Under-Secretary for Mines has issued a report for the year 1912 on the Queensland copper mining industry, and it is stated therein that the buoyancy of the copper market, whilst greatly assisting the larger mines, has also enabled many smaller shows to resume operations with satisfactory results. Gold mining has been fairly active during the past quarter in the Charters Towers and Ravenswood districts, and several claims, both new and old, have been worked by tributors with good results. An attempt is being made to dredge the Burdekin River, and a large dredging plant is in course of erection for that purpose.

Over 200 men are employed in the railway construction works between Cloncurry and Mount Cuthbert. It is expected that the completion of this line, which links up the northern portion of the great copper belt of Queensland, will be followed by the establishment of new centres of industry. About 150 men are engaged on the line between Mackay and Sarina, while it is stated that the constructing engineers on the Mount Cuthbert and Wee-MacGregor works added a number of employees to their works during May. It is reported that the building trade was active and that there was a demand for carpenters and bricklayers. The State Government has resumed work on the new railway station at Townsville. This work had been idle for about six months.

In April the North Queensland Meat Export Company started the Ross River works (Townsville) with about 350 men, and that number was doubled in the course of the following month.

The dispute at the Grant and Sunset mine (Ravenswood) was terminated at the beginning of April. On the 5th June work was stopped at the Hampden and Mount Elliott mines owing to a dispute as to whether contract work should be a condition of employment, and over 1000 men were thrown out of employment. The dispute was not settled until the 16th July.



## (D)—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

1. **Adelaide.**—A slight improvement in the labour market took place during April, but this was not maintained during the remaining months, and at the end of the past quarter conditions were stated to be anything but good. As regards agricultural labour, owing to the rains in March there was a good demand for experienced labourers and youths during April and the early part of May, and men accustomed to this class of work had no difficulty in obtaining employment if they worked their way into the country. Towards the latter part of the quarter, however, there was but little demand for this class of labour, work in the country being generally at a standstill on account of the dryness of the season.

The building trades were reported to be generally quiet owing to the reason given in the last Bulletin, viz., financial stringency. There were a good many houses being built in the suburbs, but there was not sufficient work for all the men who finished on some of the larger jobs. The Superintendent of the Labour Exchange states that at the end of June employment in the building trades was very quiet, owing mainly to several contracts nearing completion, a slight shortage of bricks, and the fact that no new works were coming on.

The engineering trades were reported to be very active at the beginning, and fairly busy at the end of the quarter. The Government entered into a contract for the construction of ten locomotives at Gawler, thus settling the difficulty that was threatening a large number of workers in that town. Boilermakers were in strong demand for town and country work. Blacksmiths were well employed in all branches, and first-class agricultural smiths were difficult to obtain. Towards the end of the quarter, however, all requirements were easily met, and a number of men are stated to have been out of work. The coachbuilding trade is reported to have been good in April, but very slack at the end of June, especially carriage making. Work in the saddlery trade was also very quiet, a number of hands working half time, while in some branches several men were unemployed. The busy season for agricultural implement makers commenced about the beginning of the quarter, and lasted for about two months. At the end of June, however, this trade is also reported to have been very dull, owing partly to the dry season. In other trades, too, business is reported to have been quiet, especially in the latter part of the quarter. The clothing trades are, however, reported to have been fairly busy.

As regards unskilled labour, though it is stated that there was some difficulty in getting men to accept work in the country, the demand for labourers in the metropolitan district was very quiet. In June the number of men inquiring at the Government Labour Exchange for employment rapidly increased, owing, it is stated, to a large number of men having been discharged from Government works. At the end of June the Superintendent of the Exchange reported that the demand for unskilled labour was exceptionally slack, with no immediate prospect of improvement. It was stated that a large number of men were out of work, and that the number was being increased daily. The chief causes alleged for this state of affairs are—(a) The completion of several new

railway lines; (b) the discharging by the Government of men engaged on various public works; and (c) the want of rain throughout practically the whole of the State.

### (E)—WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1. **Perth.**—Reports from Western Australia are meagre, but it appears that since last quarter there has been some falling off in industrial activity in Perth and Fremantle. It is reported that most people were anxiously waiting to ascertain the prospects of a good season in the rural industries, and that the recent rains should have a reassuring effect. Since the general elections the main interest in labour circles has been centred in the Congress of the Labour Federation, held at Perth in July. No fewer than 198 organisations were represented, the total number of members of these organisations being nearly 30,000.

In June several demonstrations of the unemployed were held, but considerable difference of opinion seems to have existed in regard to the number of men out of work.

2. **Kalgoorlie.**—Industrial conditions are reported to have been generally quiet during the past quarter. The terms of settlement reached between the miners and managers in regard to the dispute as to rates or pay (referred to in the last number of this Bulletin) have been embodied in industrial agreements duly signed by the parties. The supply of labour is reported to have been fully equal to the demand in skilled trades, while there is said to have been a surplus of unskilled labour available. In July the Great Boulder Mining Company began working two shifts instead of three, the night shift being abolished. This applies to underground work only, as the treatment plant has to run continuously. It is stated that this innovation is viewed favourably by the men, as it allows the smoke to clear away between midnight and 8 a.m.

### (F).—TASMANIA.

1.—**Hobart.**—During the past quarter employment in most trades is reported to have been fairly good, though there was apparently some seasonal slackening in the demand for labour in a few trades. For example, with the close of the tourist season in March, employment in the different branches of the hotel and restaurant trade falls off considerably, while in the jam making industry but little work is available during the winter months. Employment in the building trade is stated to have been intermittent. Masons were generally fully employed, carpenters and bricklayers fairly active, and plasterers dull. All branches of the furniture trade are stated to have been busy. The sawmilling industry was also very active, and it is stated that in country mills all available labour was absorbed.

The engineering trades kept steady and work was plentiful, especially in the electrical engineering. Work on the wharves is stated to have been quiet, especially towards the end of the quarter, when only a few men were employed. The clothing trades are reported to have been busy, with the exception of the bootmaking industry, which was only fairly



active. Brickmakers, pottery hands, tinsmiths, and plumbers are all reported to have been busy. As regards unskilled labour it is stated that there were a few men out of work. The coal mining industry is reported to have been busy, and metalliferous mining generally active.

During the quarter steps were taken to reorganise several unions which are stated to have become practically defunct, and it is understood that a movement is on foot to bring about greater consolidation among the industrial organisations. It is reported that a meeting of the trade union secretaries decided to amalgamate unions of workers in allied trades, and that the scheme, having been approved by the Trades and Labour Council, is being considered by the respective unions.

The annual conference of the Tasmanian Workers' Political League was held at Latrobe in June, and the amalgamation of the political and industrial executives was discussed. Among the more important planks added to the State Labour Party's Platform the following may be mentioned:—(a) State flour mills and bakeries; (b) State Forest Department to conserve timber and promote the manufacture of wood pulp, paper, etc.; (c) State irrigation, electric power, and land settlement scheme; and (d) pensions for widows, orphans, etc.

**2.—Launceston.**—During the past quarter employment is reported as good in most classes of labour. Scarcely any trades reported slackness, with the exception of the usual winter falling off. It is stated, however, that this winter there is less unemployment than usual, most of the casual hands having been absorbed on tramway extension work and clearing land on the river banks for orchards. In the building trades work has been fairly active. A fair amount of work is stated to be available, and but little time has been lost on account of the weather. Several fairly large building contracts have recently been let, with the result that there is practically no unemployment in the allied trades.

The mining industry is reported to be fairly active, while farmers have been busy at chaff-cutting, straw-pressing, etc. The fruit industry is fast assuming large proportions in this part of Tasmania. It is stated that there has been a revival of interest in several of the trade unions.

### SECTION III.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

**1. General.**—For the quarter ending 30th June, 1913, returns as to employment were received from 458 trade unions, having a membership of 243,523, or over 56 per cent. of the total membership of all unions in the Commonwealth. The number unemployed was 17,854 or 7.3 per cent., compared with 6.4 per cent. for the preceding quarter (January to March) and 5.5 per cent. for the end of 1912. It will be observed, therefore, that there has been an increase of 0.9 in the percentage unemployed in comparison with the quarter ending 31st March of the current year, and 1.8 compared with the end of 1912. The percentage is higher than any recorded by this Bureau since 1896, when it was 10.8 per cent., but as pointed out in the first issue of this Bulletin, the percentages for years previous to 1913 refer to the end of the year only,

and not to intermediate quarters, when the percentage unemployed may have been greater, especially during the winter months, than that recorded at the end of the year. The following table shews the number of unions reporting, their membership, and the number and percentage unemployed. The returns do not include persons out of work through strikes or lock-outs.

**Unemployment.—Number of Unions and Members Reporting, and Number and Percentage Unemployed, 1906 to 1913.**

Particulars.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913. 1st Qtr.	1913. 2nd Qtr.
<b>Number of Unions Reporting.</b>									
Unions ..	47	51	68	84	109	160	464	451	458
Members	11,299	13,179	18,685	21,122	32,995	67,961	224,023	237,216	243,523
<b>Unemployed.</b>									
Number	753	757	1,117	1,223	1,857	3,171	12,441†	15,234†	17,854†
Percentage	6.7	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.6	4.7	5.5†	6.4†	7.3†

† Returns collected on different basis to previous years, see remarks above.

The significance of the figures may be better appreciated by reference to the graph on page 80 hereinbefore. It will be observed that there was a decline in unemployment from 1906 to 1911, the latter year having the lowest percentage recorded in the returns collected by this Bureau. The percentage has increased from 4.7 in 1911 to 5.5 in 1912, 6.4 for the first quarter and 7.3 for the second quarter of the current year. The increase in the first two quarters of 1913 has therefore been at a uniform rate, viz., 0.9 per cent.

As will appear below there has been an increase in the percentage of unemployment in all industries with the exception of mining, the increase being greatest in those industries dealing with food, drink, etc., and with clothing, boots, etc. Furthermore, the increase occurred in all the States with the exception of New South Wales, where there was a slight decrease.

**2. Unemployment in Different Industries.**—The following table shews the percentages unemployed in several of the fourteen industrial groups. Information as to classification of these groups is given in Report No. 2, page 6. It may be observed that for those industries in which unemployment is either unusually stable, or on the other hand, exceptionally casual, information as to unemployment cannot ordinarily be obtained from trade unions. Hence, certain industries such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns. Particulars are not, therefore, shewn separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

**Unemployment in different Industries for the Quarter ending 30th June, 1913, and Comparison with Preceding Quarter.**

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	Number Reporting.		Unem- ployed.		Unem- ployed in pre- ceding Quarter.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage since preceding Quarter.
	Unions	Mem- bers.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.		
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	20	18,401	1,284	7.0	5.1	+1.9
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	64	32,250	2,223	6.9	6.5	+0.4
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	50	17,073	1,785	10.5	7.7	+2.8
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	30	17,386	1,799	10.3	7.4	+2.9
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	29	6,507	314	4.8	3.2	+1.6
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	73	21,370	1,407	6.6	5.9	+0.7
VII. Building .. ..	55	25,376	2,483	9.8	9.1	+0.7
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	25	30,945	2,387	7.7	8.1	—0.4
X. Other Land Transport ..	14	13,809	332	2.4	2.1	+0.3
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV. Other and Miscellaneous ..	98	60,406	3,840	6.4	5.8	+0.6
All Groups .. ..	458	243,523	17,854	7.3	6.4	+0.9

The above figures shew that while the percentage unemployed has decreased slightly since last quarter in Group VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.), it has increased in all other groups.

The increase is greatest in Group IV. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.), followed in the order named by Group III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), Group I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.), Group V. (Books, Printing, etc.), Group VII. (Building), Group VI. (Other Manufacturing), Groups IX., etc. (Other and Miscellaneous), Group II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.), and Group X. (Other Land Transport). In the clothing, hat, and boot trades the increase occurred in all the States with the exception of Tasmania. It is stated to be due to the slackness in the ready-made clothing industry, which in all the States, except Tasmania, is reported to have been greater than has been the case for a number of years. This slackness is alleged to be partly the result of an increase in imports by the wholesale houses, owing to a feeling which was prevalent 12 or 18 months ago, that the production of the Australian manufacturers would not equal the demand. There are only a small number employed in this industry in Tasmania, which has apparently escaped the general depression. In those industries connected with food, drink, tobacco, etc., all States except New South Wales and Queensland shew an increase in unemployment, but Victoria and Tasmania account for the greater part of the increase. In these States it is reported that there has been an almost total cessation of work in meat works and sausage-casing works, as usual at this period of the year, the busy season being from the end of September to the end of February, and an unusual slackness in bacon factories. Employment in cold storage works is stated to have been bad, consequent on the closing of meat works, and in the jam, sauce, and pickle preserving works on account of the shortage of fruit, etc. It is reported that in liquor trades in Victoria unemployment is 50 per cent. greater than at the same period during any of the last five years.

In Group I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.) the reports received indicate that the increase in Victoria is due to the fact that a number of bush saw mills have ceased operations since the 1st May. A diminution in the number of permits available (particularly in red gum, iron bark, and grey box country) is alleged to be the cause of a number of men being unemployed. In the metropolis the general depression in the building trades is said to be responsible for increased unemployment. In New South Wales, with the exception of the fact that the wet season is stated to have adversely affected employment in the country, the reports shew that since last quarter there has been little change in this industry. In Western Australia the late rains have affected work in the country. Complaint is generally made by trade-union secretaries that in the furniture trade the labour market is becoming overstocked as the result of oversea arrivals.

The increase in unemployment in Group V. (Printing, &c.) is general in all the States except South Australia, and appears to be due to seasonal slackness.

Improvement in employment in mining is shewn in all States with the exception of Western Australia and Tasmania. The coal mining industry is reported to be active in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, but mining in other metals not so good. In Victoria it is stated that conditions are only moderate, as much of the work at present is on unprofitable ore, and in South Australia the Government mines are reported to have ceased operations. In Western Australia both coal and metalliferous mining is reported bad. The inactivity in the coal mining industry in that State is said to be due to the fact that the Western Australian Government reduced their orders for coal during the summer months, and that the demand for bunker coal is also quiet in the summer. Among the miners in Kalgoorlie there is an increase in unemployment, but in Gwalia an improvement is reported as a result of the mine owners replacing alien labour with British, arising out of the recent prosecutions by the Mines Department for infringement of the Act relating to alien labour.

In Tasmania coal miners report that time has been lost owing to a shortage of railway trucks, and in the alluvial tin mining there has been a shortage of water.

**3. Unemployment in Different States for Quarter ending 30th June, 1913.**—Of the 458 organisations reporting unemployment, the largest number (127 unions with 98,386 members) was in New South Wales, Victoria with 119 unions and 84,092 members coming next. As pointed out in the previous issue of this bulletin, the industrial occupations of the people, as well as the extent to which the different industries are represented in the returns, vary considerably in the several States. All comparisons, therefore, that can be drawn between the results for the several States are subject to the qualification that the figures relate not only to different States, but also to some extent to different industries.

In the following table particulars are given for the quarter ended 30th June last, as to the number and percentage unemployed, and the increase or decrease since the preceding quarter in each State:—

**Unemployment in different States for Quarter ending 30th June, 1913, and Comparison with Preceding Quarter.**

STATES, ETC.	QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1913.				Per-centage Unem-ployed in pre-ceding Quarter.	Increase (+) or De-crease (—) in per-centage since pre-ceding Quarter.
	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.			
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Per-centage.		
New South Wales	127	98,386	6,249	6.4	6.5	— 0.1
Victoria ..	119	84,092	7,168	8.5	7.0	+ 1.5
Queensland ..	46	12,244	821	6.6	6.5	+ 0.1
South Australia	59	23,213	2,061	8.8	5.5	+ 3.3
Western Aust. ..	65	20,634	1,340	6.5	5.0	+ 1.5
Tasmania ..	42	4,954	215	4.3	3.2	+ 1.1
Commonwealth	458	243,523	17,854	7.3	6.4	+ 0.9

The above figures shew that the increase since the preceding quarter in the percentage unemployed is greatest in South Australia (3.3), followed by Victoria (1.5), West Australia (1.5), Tasmania (1.1), and Queensland (0.1). There was a small decrease (0.1) in New South Wales.

The increase in South Australia is most marked in the building trades and among unskilled labourers. The building trade is reported to be inactive owing to stringency of the money market and to the fact that the Government has not made financial provision for carrying out public works authorised by Parliament. The want of rain throughout the State has adversely affected industrial conditions both in the metropolis and the country. In Victoria the increase is general throughout all industries with the exception of mining, but is most marked in Group I. (Furniture, Wood, &c.), Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.), and in Group IV. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, &c.). It may be remarked, however, that employment is good in the felt hat and tobacco industries. In West Australia the increase is general in most industries, being greatest in Group IV. (Clothing, &c.), Group VII. (Building), and Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.). Employment in the building trade is, however, reported to be improving, as a number of villa residences are being erected in the suburbs under the Workers' Homes Act. In Tasmania there was an increase of unemployment in Group VIII. (Mining), Group III. (Food, Drink, &c.), Group VII. (Building), and Group II. (Engineering, &c.), while there was a decrease in Group IV. (Clothing, &c.), and Group X. (Other Land Transport). In Queensland a fairly large increase in unemployment is reported in Group IV. (Clothing, &c.), and Group I. (Timber, &c.), but these are counterbalanced by decreases in other industries. In New South Wales there has been an increase in Group V. (Books, Printing, &c.), and Group IV. (Clothing, &c.), with small decreases in other groups.

**4. Causes of Unemployment.**—Particulars as to causes of unemployment, classified under three main heads, are available for the second quarter of the current year for 451 unions, having a membership

of 241,512. The following table shews that out of a total number of 17,673 out of work, 15,312 were unemployed through lack of work, 1930 through sickness and accident, and 611 through other causes (excluding persons on strike or lock-out:—

**Unemployment according to Causes for the various States and Commonwealth,  
Quarter ending 30th June, 1913.**

Causes of Unemployment.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Commonwealth.		
							Number Unemployed.	Percentage Unemployed on total Membership.	Percentage Unemployed in each class on total number Unemployed.
Lack of Work ...	5,085	6,268	670	1,875	1,067	167	15,132	6.2	85.6
Sickness and Accident ..	884	478	115	171	238	44	1,930	0.8	10.9
Other .. ..	224	287	36	25	35	4	611	0.3	3.5
TOTAL ..	6,193	7,033	821	2,071	1,340	215	17,673	7.3	100.0

The principal cause of unemployment, as shewn in the above table, was "Lack of Work," 6.2 per cent. of the membership of the trade unions reporting, being unemployed for that reason, as against 5.2 per cent. for the preceding quarter. The next cause in order of importance was "Sickness and Accident," 0.8 per cent. of the members being unemployed for this reason, the same percentage as in the preceding quarter. The percentage out of work through other causes was 0.3, compared with 0.2 for preceding quarter. It will be observed that 85.6 per cent. of the total amount of unemployment was due to "Lack of Work," 10.9 per cent. to "Sickness and Accidents," and 3.5 per cent to "Other Causes."

5. **Unemployment at Census of 3rd April, 1911.**—At the Commonwealth Census taken in 1911 each wage earner who had been out of work for more than a week prior to the census was required to state that fact on his census card. The general results of this inquiry were furnished in the Census Bulletin No. 16, in which the actual numbers are given, but the results shewing the percentage of persons unemployed have not hitherto been published.

(i.) *Classification according to Occupation.*—The figures shewn in the tables on pages 102 and 103 have been computed, so as to present in comparable form the percentage of persons unemployed on the total number of wage earners, classified according to sex, occupation, and States. It will be observed that the percentage in the last class of Group IV., viz., "Engaged in Undefined Industrial Pursuits" appears abnormally high, but it should be remembered that persons unable to obtain employment in their usual trade or occupation naturally are likely, when unemployed, to state their occupation in an indefinite manner, such as labourer or enginedriver. The effect of this tendency is of course, not only to swell the percentage in the class referred to, but also to diminish the percentages in other classes. The first table refers to males, the second to females.

**Percentage of Male Wage Earners Unemployed at date of Census (3rd April, 1911)  
Classified according to Occupations.**

OCCUPATION.	Percentage of Unemployed to Total Number of Wage-earners.						
	STATES						
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
CLASS I.—PROFESSIONAL.							
Engaged in Govt., Defence, Law, etc.	0.28	0.36	0.52	0.26	0.22	0.42	0.33
Ministering to Religion, Charity, Health, Education, etc. . . .	2.38	2.49	2.64	1.15	2.31	1.36	2.33
TOTAL—CLASS I. . . .	1.48	1.64	1.81	0.79	1.37	0.88	1.49
CLASS II.—DOMESTIC.							
Engaged in supplying Board & Lodg'g	2.81	3.36	2.63	2.40	3.61	3.55	3.01
„ Domestic Service & Attendance	7.21	7.57	9.95	3.32	9.53	5.41	7.48
TOTAL—CLASS II. . . .	5.18	5.74	6.38	2.86	5.94	4.48	5.37
CLASS III.—COMMERCIAL.							
Dealing in Property and Finance . .	0.62	0.58	0.56	0.53	0.81	0.60	0.60
„ Art and Mechanic Productions	1.21	1.42	1.49	0.51	0.85	0.93	1.23
„ Textile Fabrics, Dress & Fibrous Materials . . . .	2.63	2.83	2.82	0.87	2.46	2.57	2.55
„ Food, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants . . . .	3.85	3.92	4.82	2.04	4.97	1.89	3.85
„ Animals, Animal and Vegetable Substances, N.E.I. . . .	2.11	1.77	3.28	1.26	0.89	2.50	1.96
„ Fuel and Light . . . .	1.84	1.75	3.25	1.00	1.20	1.36	1.88
„ Metals and Other Minerals . . .	1.89	2.04	1.90	0.31	2.33	2.68	1.74
General & Undefined Merchants & Dealers	5.89	7.18	6.10	4.10	6.11	4.43	6.04
Speculators on Chance Events . . .	4.61	3.25	11.43	..	2.86	1.79	4.12
Engaged in Storage . . . .	0.92	..	..	0.93	..	..	0.57
TOTAL—CLASS III. . . .	3.17	3.19	3.79	1.75	3.42	2.42	3.11
CLASS IV.—TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION.							
Engaged in Railway Traffic . . . .	0.43	0.41	1.29	0.28	0.54	0.44	0.56
„ Traffic on Roads . . . .	2.61	4.32	5.49	2.63	4.93	2.65	3.49
„ „ „ Seas and Rivers . . . .	5.78	5.61	4.65	2.34	3.69	3.07	4.88
„ Postal, „ Telegraph and Telephone Service . . . .	0.40	0.25	0.88	0.31	0.38	0.21	0.42
Messengers, etc. . . .	13.10	9.15	21.74	12.00	12.20	5.41	12.32
TOTAL—CLASS IV. . . .	2.66	2.59	2.98	1.52	2.12	1.89	2.51
CLASS V.—INDUSTRIAL.							
Working in Art and Mechanic Productions . . . .	2.26	5.16	3.09	2.18	3.05	2.42	3.34
„ Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials . . . .	3.49	3.10	4.25	2.99	5.44	4.95	3.48
„ Food, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants . . . .	2.77	3.06	2.91	1.80	4.04	2.47	2.86
„ Animal and Vegetable Substances, N.E.I. . . .	3.60	2.57	3.90	1.33	2.43	3.74	3.02
„ Metals and Other Minerals . . .	2.79	6.50	3.77	2.86	4.85	3.94	4.17
„ Fuel, Light, and other forms of Energy . . . .	1.73	1.31	2.52	1.62	3.15	3.03	1.75
Engaged in Construction of Buildings, Roads, Railways, etc. . . .	3.94	6.18	4.80	2.88	5.26	5.26	4.68
„ Disposal of the Dead or of Refuse . . . .	0.53	1.21	0.82	1.74	0.96	0.51	0.90
„ Undefined Industrial Pursuits	17.09	17.08	28.51	12.87	17.66	13.91	18.01
TOTAL—CLASS V. . . .	5.34	6.87	7.61	4.06	6.80	6.26	6.10
CLASS VI.—PRIMARY PRODUCERS.							
Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits . .	2.68	3.16	3.82	2.04	1.97	1.65	2.76
„ Pastoral Pursuits . . . .	2.47	2.99	3.14	2.30	3.12	1.52	2.73
„ Capture, etc., of Wild Animals and their Produce . . . .	5.57	2.82	5.86	3.25	1.41	2.16	4.23
„ Fisheries . . . .	2.35	4.35	0.82	6.58	0.16	9.09	1.06
„ Forestry . . . .	1.16	1.73	1.66	2.08	0.83	0.57	1.24
„ Water Conservation and Supply . . . .	0.36	1.01	1.77	1.50	0.58	1.41	0.97
„ Mining and Quarrying . . . .	4.66	7.04	6.71	6.51	6.88	3.92	5.82
TOTAL—CLASS VI. . . .	3.11	3.91	4.03	2.66	3.78	2.20	3.45
TOTAL—BREADWINNERS . . . .	3.80	4.73	4.91	2.80	4.14	3.36	4.14
Unspecified . . . .	53.27	56.40	56.96	41.49	55.43	45.60	53.82
GRAND TOTAL . . . .	3.96	5.03	5.12	2.96	4.30	3.55	4.35



Percentage of Female Wage Earners Unemployed at Date of Census (3rd April, 1911)  
Classified according to Occupations.

OCCUPATION.	Percentage of Unemployed to Total Number of Wage-earners.						
	STATES.						
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'with.
CLASS I.—PROFESSIONAL.							
Engaged in Govt., Defence, Law, etc.	0.19	0.22	..	..	..	..	0.13
Ministering to Religion, Charity, Health, Education, etc.	2.38	2.46	1.55	1.35	2.69	2.75	2.24
TOTAL—CLASS I.	2.28	2.36	1.46	1.31	2.47	2.63	2.14
CLASS II.—DOMESTIC.							
Engaged in supplying Board & Lodg'g	1.73	2.24	1.31	1.43	3.30	0.72	1.90
„ Domestic Service & Attendance	3.32	3.80	4.63	2.11	5.66	3.21	3.62
TOTAL—CLASS II.	2.98	3.51	3.75	1.99	4.83	2.85	3.26
CLASS III.—COMMERCIAL.							
Dealing in Property and Finance	0.15	0.21	..	..	..	..	0.13
„ Art and Mechanic Productions	0.46	0.86	0.66	..	1.47	1.04	0.66
„ Textile Fabrics, Dress & Fibrous Materials	1.66	1.65	2.00	0.77	2.50	0.94	1.64
„ Food, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants	0.96	0.77	1.07	0.83	1.58	0.76	0.93
„ Animals, Animal and Vegetable Substances, N.E.I.	1.34	1.27	..	..	3.17	..	1.15
„ Fuel and Light	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Metals and Other Minerals	0.69	1.19	1.67	..	1.96	..	1.00
General & Undefined Merchants & Dealers	5.19	6.77	5.60	2.55	8.58	5.39	5.68
Speculators on Chance Events	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engaged in Storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL—CLASS III.	2.51	2.54	2.41	1.06	3.72	2.06	2.43
CLASS IV.—TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION.							
Engaged in Railway Traffic	..	0.38	..	..	..	..	0.11
„ Traffic on Roads	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ „ Seas and Rivers	2.86	3.33	..	..	..	..	1.89
„ Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Service	0.09	0.09	..	0.73	0.37	1.13	0.24
Messengers, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL—CLASS IV.	0.32	0.32	..	0.60	0.31	0.93	0.34
CLASS V.—INDUSTRIAL.							
Working in Art and Mechanic Productions	0.75	1.20	1.68	1.19	2.33	4.31	1.14
„ Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials	2.22	2.19	2.55	1.35	3.85	3.98	2.28
„ Food, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants	0.90	1.17	0.88	..	..	2.27	0.99
„ Animal and Vegetable Substances, N.E.I.	..	1.29	..	..	..	..	0.67
„ Metals and Other Minerals	0.77	..	3.33	..	..	..	0.56
„ Fuel, Light, and other forms of Energy	..	1.02	..	..	..	..	0.91
Engaged in Construction of Buildings, Roads, Railways, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Disposal of the Dead or of Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Undefined Industrial Pursuits	4.64	2.65	3.26	4.76	5.71	7.14	3.42
TOTAL—CLASS V.	1.97	2.02	2.41	1.32	3.62	3.95	2.10
CLASS VI.—PRIMARY PRODUCERS.							
Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits	..	2.67	..	..	10.00	..	0.63
„ Pastoral Pursuits	..	0.55	0.67	..	..	..	0.33
„ Capture, etc., of Wild Animals and their Produce	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Fisheries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Forestry	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Water Conservation and Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ Mining and Quarrying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL—CLASS VI.	..	1.08	0.53	..	3.23	..	0.42
TOTAL—BREADWINNERS	2.52	2.68	2.91	1.60	4.05	2.82	2.63
Unspecified	45.34	42.74	44.55	18.18	44.44	39.47	41.69
GRAND TOTAL	2.58	2.82	3.03	1.64	4.16	2.95	2.73



The general results of the census inquiry shew that 4.35 per cent. of the persons (males) working for salary or wages were returned as unemployed. This percentage is slightly less than that obtained (4.7 per cent.) as a result of inquiries from trade unions, but it must be borne in mind that in addition to the difference in point of time (the trade-union returns relating to the end of the year), the census figures include professional and other workers among whom the percentage of unemployment is relatively low, and who are not, of course, included in the trade-union returns.

(ii.) *Classification according to Age.*—In the following table particulars are given for each State and the Commonwealth as to the percentage of wage earners employed, classified according to age. The first part of the table relates to males, the second to females. It may be seen that at first the percentage unemployed increases fairly rapidly (up to the third age group in the case of males and the fourth in case of females) and then remains fairly constant up to the group "40 and under 44" for males and "45 and under 49" in the case of females. The percentages then increase until the group "65 and under 69" is reached, the increase being more rapid as the age groups advance. At the last named group both sets of figures attain a maximum, after which there is a considerable fall in the percentage for the age group "70 and upwards." This fall is, no doubt, due to the fact that many persons become permanently unemployed, and are classed as "dependants." They are not, therefore, returned as wage earners out of work.

**Percentage of Persons Unemployed at Date of Census (3rd April, 1911) Classified according to Age.**

AGE.	Percentage of Unemployed to total Number of Wage-earners.						
	STATES.						
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
MALES.							
Under 15	1.94	1.67	2.11	1.48	1.76	1.70	1.81
15 to 19	3.10	3.99	3.67	2.08	3.69	2.89	3.37
20 " 24	3.73	5.44	4.59	2.91	3.77	3.67	4.01
25 " 29	3.47	4.92	4.54	2.69	3.08	3.22	3.88
30 " 34	3.65	4.75	4.80	2.73	3.83	2.97	4.01
35 " 39	3.66	4.39	5.08	2.45	3.72	3.14	3.95
40 " 44	3.92	4.78	5.50	2.84	4.64	3.70	4.38
45 " 49	4.03	5.09	5.76	3.26	4.84	4.47	4.64
50 " 54	5.13	6.02	6.81	3.69	6.69	4.37	5.62
55 " 59	6.04	7.14	7.69	4.84	7.66	5.07	6.53
60 " 64	7.81	9.51	11.07	6.11	10.18	6.56	8.63
65 " 69	10.36	10.58	13.25	9.45	13.14	7.53	10.79
70 and upwards	6.69	6.83	8.18	4.55	10.02	4.78	6.85
Unspecified	3.35	5.73	3.62	3.94	3.45	2.58	3.97
TOTAL	3.96	5.03	5.12	2.96	4.30	3.55	4.35
FEMALES.							
Under 15	1.48	1.28	1.80	0.80	2.31	0.64	1.39
15 to 19	2.48	2.31	2.81	1.56	4.28	3.06	2.49
20 " 24	2.54	2.93	3.23	1.60	4.26	3.01	2.78
25 " 29	2.68	3.05	3.35	1.94	3.39	3.44	2.88
30 " 34	2.66	2.67	2.77	1.69	3.94	3.02	2.69
35 " 39	2.66	3.11	3.36	1.90	3.85	2.14	2.91
40 " 44	2.33	3.56	1.98	1.37	4.44	3.01	2.87
45 " 49	2.48	3.39	3.04	1.93	5.66	1.43	2.98
50 " 54	3.32	3.97	4.26	1.26	4.48	3.31	3.54
55 " 59	3.61	4.20	3.36	3.12	7.55	5.00	3.99
60 " 64	4.96	4.28	7.35	1.72	6.32	3.85	4.69
65 " 69	6.77	5.23	11.76	2.47	11.86	9.23	6.76
70 and upwards	2.55	4.90	3.03	1.52	7.14	2.38	3.50
Unspecified	3.21	3.33	1.80	3.06	4.46	..	3.06
TOTAL	2.58	2.82	3.03	1.64	4.16	2.95	2.73

## SECTION IV.—RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND COST OF LIVING.

1. **General.**—The decline which occurred in the cost of living during the two preceding quarters was not continued during the second quarter of 1913, when the index-number for the 30 towns for which particulars are collected, stood at 1012, compared with 998 in the preceding quarter. It appears, however, that this increase was due mainly to seasonal influences. Probably the most significant feature in regard to price movement during the past quarter is that the increase amounted to only 1.4 per cent., whereas the increase during the corresponding period (from the first to the second quarter) in 1912 amounted to no less than 4.3 per cent. It is obvious, therefore, that the phenomenal increase which occurred last year is not being maintained. This may be more readily appreciated by reference to the graph on page 80 hereinbefore. It will be seen, however, that the index-number for the past quarter (1012) is still higher than that for the corresponding period of 1912 (988).

As will be seen below, cost of living has increased since the preceding quarter in all the States. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912, however, while it is higher this year in New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, it is lower in Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia.

Particulars of the cost of living index-numbers in each State during the last quarter, compared with the quarter immediately preceding, and also with the corresponding quarter for the previous year, are shewn in the following table. The figures relate to the average cost in five of the more important towns (see paragraph 3) in each State, and are computed with average prices for the whole of the year 1912 as base (= 1000).

**Cost of Living Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth,†  
April to June, 1913.**

Index-Numbers.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Average for Year 1912..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
For Quarter—							
April to June, 1912	977	988	998	1,000	1,026	979	988
Jan. to March, 1913	1,020	993	970	981	974	993	998
April to June, 1913	1,040	1,000	988	993	984	1,007	1,012

† Weighted average in each State for the five towns specified in paragraph 3 hereinafter. It is proper to observe that these index-numbers are not fully comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2 in regard to variations from year to year in cost of living, since the latter index-numbers refer to the capital towns only and were taken with the year 1911 as base (= 1000). Particulars for all the thirty towns were not available for years prior to 1912, and in this table the year 1912 has, accordingly, been taken as base (= 1000). Particulars fully comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2 for the capital towns only may be found in paragraph 5 hereof.

The above figures shew that the cost of living has increased in all the States since the first quarter of the present year. It is higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1912, in New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, but lower in Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia. It will be seen later that the increase since last quarter applies to all the groups, though it is only slight in the case of groceries. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 prices of groceries

and dairy produce are considerably lower, while meat and house rents are higher. This applies to all the States, with the exceptions that in New South Wales groceries are higher, in Queensland and West Australia meat is lower, and in South Australia rents are lower.

**2. Variations in Retail Prices and House Rent Index-Numbers 1912 and 1913.**—The forty-six commodities and items included in the investigations have been classed into three groups, viz.:—I. (Groceries), II. (Dairy Produce), and III. (Meat); in addition house rent forms the fourth group. In all the groups the weighted average index-numbers for the Commonwealth shew an increase since the first quarter of 1913. This increase is small in Group I. (Groceries), being less than 1 per cent. It is largest in Group II. (Dairy Produce) in which it is 2.6 per cent. The increase in Group III. (Meat) is 1.4 per cent., and in Group IV. (House Rent) 1.3 per cent. The price levels for groceries and dairy produce are lower than at the same period of 1912, 3 per cent. in the case of the former and 4.2 per cent. in the case of the latter. Meat is still relatively dear, being no less than 11.6 per cent. higher than at the same period last year, while house rent is 5.6 per cent. higher.

The following table shows the index-numbers in each State for the second quarter (April to June) of 1913 compared with those for the quarter immediately preceding (January to March), and with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year (April to June, 1912). The index-numbers shew the weighted average results for five towns in each State, average prices and rents during the whole of the year 1912 being taken as base (= 1000).

**Cost of Living in Australia, Index-Numbers for each Group, April to June, 1913, with Year 1912 as Base (= 1000).**

Index-Numbers.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
I. GROCERIES.							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Quarter—							
April to June, 1912	978	976	975	966	1,018	958	978
Jan. to March, 1913	966	925	926	928	927	913	940
April to June, 1913	983	918	938	943	941	920	948
II. DAIRY PRODUCE.							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Quarter—							
April to June, 1912	1,027	1,068	1,046	1,065	1,033	1,061	1,048
Jan. to March, 1913	1,009	964	923	995	966	963	979
April to June, 1913	1,023	982	974	1,019	995	1,030	1,004
III. MEAT.							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Quarter—							
April to June, 1912	897	918	989	963	1,079	918	938
Jan. to March, 1913	1,080	1,016	987	1,029	966	1,047	1,033
April to June, 1913	1,113	1,018	984	1,051	978	1,038	1,047

**Cost of Living in Australia, Index-Numbers of each Group, April to June, 1913, with Year 1912 as Base (= 1000).—continued.**

Index-Numbers.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
IV. HOUSE RENTS.							
Average for 1912 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Quarter—							
April to June, 1912	986	992	1,000	1,009	986	993	992
Jan. to March, 1913	1,038	1,044	1,032	992	1,030	1,052	1,034
April to June, 1913	1,056	1,060	1,050	994	1,024	1,043	1,047

(i.) *Groceries*.—There was a small increase in the index-numbers for this group in all States except Victoria. The increase is greatest in New South Wales. The decrease in Victoria is due to a decline in prices of bread, flour, and potatoes. Prices are lower than in the corresponding quarter of 1912 in all States except New South Wales. The increase in that State, however, is only slight.

(ii.) *Dairy Produce*.—Index-numbers for this group have increased in all the States, mainly owing to increased prices of milk and eggs. Compared with corresponding quarter in 1912, however, index-numbers are lower in all the States. The decline is greatest in Victoria, and only small in New South Wales and Tasmania.

(iii.) *Meat*.—In Group III. prices rose in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia, but fell in Queensland and Tasmania. The greatest advance is 3 per cent. in New South Wales, due to a rise in prices in Sydney. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912 prices in the past quarter were considerably higher in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, practically the same in Queensland, and much lower in Western Australia.

(iv.) *House Rents*.—Rents continue to rise in New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. They are slightly lower in Western Australia and Tasmania, and practically stationary in South Australia. Compared with corresponding quarter of 1912 all the States shew a substantial advance, with the exception of South Australia, where rents are slightly lower.

**3. Variations in Cost of Living in each of Thirty Towns, April to June, 1913, Compared with Previous Year.**—The cost of living index-numbers in the second quarter of the year 1913 for each of the thirty towns included in the inquiry are given in the following table. The first column shews the base index-number (= 1000) for expenditure based on average prices and house rent during the whole of the year 1912. The second column gives the index-numbers for the second quarter of 1912, the third column the index-numbers for the first quarter of 1913, and the fourth column the index-numbers for the second quarter of 1913. It will be seen that cost of living is higher than in the preceding quarter in all towns except Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Kalgoorlie. In the case of Kalgoorlie the decrease is due to the fact that rents in that town are lower than in the first quarter, while in Ballarat (bread, flour and potatoes), Bendigo (flour, potatoes, and sugar), and Geelong (milk), prices have fallen. The aggregate result for all thirty towns shews an increase on preceding quarter of 1.4 per cent., and on the corresponding quarter of 1912 of 2.4 per cent.

Cost of Living Index-Numbers (Groceries, Food and House Rent), for each of Thirty Towns, 1912 and 1913, with Average for Year 1912 as Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	1912.		1913.	
	Base for Whole Year (=1,000).	Second Quarter (April to June).	First Quarter (Jan. to March).	Second Quarter (April to June).
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>				
Sydney .. .. .	1,000	978	1,020	1,038
Newcastle .. .. .	1,000	966	1,026	1,048
Broken Hill .. .. .	1,000	971	1,012	1,046
Goulburn .. .. .	1,000	970	1,043	1,075
Bathurst .. .. .	1,000	972	1,017	1,041
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	977	1,020	1,040
<b>VICTORIA—</b>				
Melbourne .. .. .	1,000	987	995	1,004
Ballarat .. .. .	1,000	985	961	960
Bendigo .. .. .	1,000	996	997	993
Geelong .. .. .	1,000	985	996	988
Warrnambool .. .. .	1,000	993	1,005	1,013
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	988	993	1,000
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>				
Brisbane .. .. .	1,000	996	976	998
Toowoomba .. .. .	1,000	1,012	942	953
Rockhampton .. .. .	1,000	997	971	982
Charters Towers .. .. .	1,000	1,001	960	961
Warwick .. .. .	1,000	992	945	963
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	998	970	988
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>				
Adelaide .. .. .	1,000	1,001	979	991
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	1,000	1,001	990	1,011
Port Pirie .. .. .	1,000	1,001	988	1,010
Mt. Gambier .. .. .	1,000	986	999	1,016
Petersburg .. .. .	1,000	986	987	1,013
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	1,000	981	993
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>				
Perth .. .. .	1,000	1,026	976	993
Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	1,000	1,029	962	953
Mid. Junction and Guildford ..	1,000	1,021	978	998
Bunbury .. .. .	1,000	1,020	974	989
Geraldton .. .. .	1,000	1,009	998	1,014
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	1,026	974	984
<b>TASMANIA—</b>				
Hobart .. .. .	1,000	970	1,011	1,022
Launceston .. .. .	1,000	992	965	982
Zeehan .. .. .	1,000	984	978	995
Beaconsfield .. .. .	1,000	975	974	990
Queenstown .. .. .	1,000	992	995	1,025
*Weighted Average .. ..	1,000	979	993	1,007
†Weighted Average for C'wealth	1,000	988	998	1,012

\* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns.

NOTE.—The above figures are comparable in the horizontal lines, but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns. The reason for this is obvious when it is understood that the cost in each town separately, whatever it may be, is made = 1000 for the year 1912.

4. **Relative Cost of Living in Different Towns, April to June, 1913.**—The figures given in the preceding paragraphs relate to the increase or decrease in cost of living in individual States or towns, but do not afford any information as to the relative cost in these places. In the following table, however, the relative cost of living (based on the average prices for the second quarter of the year 1913) is shewn for the thirty towns for which particulars are collected. The cost of living in each town is compared with the weighted average for all towns. Taking this weighted average expenditure as the base ( $\approx 1000$ ) the relative expenditure in each town has been computed.

**Cost of Living, April to June, 1913. Index-Numbers shewing Cost in each of Thirty different Towns (including the Average Rent for All Houses) compared with Weighted Average Cost for All Towns.**

TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.	TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.
<b>New South Wales—</b>				<b>South Australia—</b>			
Sydney ..	1,026	1,192	1,091	Adelaide ..	1,015	1,101	1,049
Newcastle ..	1,016	761	916	Kadina, Moonta ..	1,029	568	848
Broken Hill ..	1,223	739	1,034	Walleroo ..	1,048	741	928
Goulburn ..	1,054	980	1,025	Port Pirie ..	919	649	813
Bathurst ..	960	743	875	Mt. Gambier ..	991	859	939
Weighted Average	1,033	1,128	1,070	Petersburg ..			
<b>Victoria—</b>				<b>Western Australia—</b>			
Melbourne ..	922	1,043	969	Perth and			
Ballarat ..	929	607	803	Fremantle ..	1,151	888	1,048
Bendigo ..	968	645	842	Kalgoorlie and	1,436	742	1,164
Geelong ..	950	824	901	Boulder ..			
Warrnambool ..	945	745	867	Midland Junct'n	1,182	783	1,026
Weighted Average	927	973	945	and Guildford	1,214	664	998
<b>Queensland—</b>				Bunbury ..	1,246	1,039	1,165
Brisbane ..	939	826	895	Geraldton ..			
Toowoomba ..	928	733	851	Weighted Average	1,215	851	1,073
Rockhampton ..	951	730	865	<b>Tasmania—</b>			
Charters Towers	1,091	570	887	Hobart ..	1,052	853	974
Warwick ..	989	722	884	Launceston ..	966	792	898
Weighted Average	953	783	887	Zechar ..	1,140	443	867
				Beaconsfield ..	1,068	254	749
				Queenstown ..	1,179	534	927
				Weighted Average	1,038	770	933
				<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
				for all Towns			

In the above table the figures are *comparable vertically, but are not directly comparable horizontally*. This is immediately evident when it is remembered that the average expenditure on each group for all towns is represented by the one figure—1000—though actually this figure does not, of course, represent equal amounts.

It will be observed from this table that so far as States are concerned, Western Australia is relatively the most expensive and Queensland the cheapest, Western Australia being 7.3 per cent. above and Queensland 11.3 per cent. below, the average. Geraldton, in Western Australia, is the most expensive town, being 16.5 per cent. above, while Beaconsfield, in Tasmania, is the cheapest, 25.1 per cent. below the average.

5. **Capital Towns only—Cost of Living Index-Numbers 1911 to 1913.**—It has been pointed out (see footnote † to table on page 107) that the index-numbers previously given herein are not generally comparable with those given in Reports Nos. 1 and 2, in which the year 1911 was taken as base (= 1000) for the capital towns only, instead of the year 1912 for all the thirty towns in the previous paragraphs. In order to maintain the continuity of the results given in these previous reports the following particulars are given for the capital towns only, taking the weighted average cost in 1911, firstly for each town separately, and secondly for all six towns together as base (= 1000).

**Retail Price, House Rent and Cost of Living Index-Numbers in each Capital Town 1911 to 1913, with Year 1911 as Base (= 1000).\***

Particulars.	1911.	1912.		1913.		
		Whole Year.	2ndQuarter (April to June).	1st Quarter (Jan. to March).	2ndQuarter (April to June).	
GROCERIES AND FOOD.						
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,136	1,102	1,148	1,170	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,156	1,143	1,107	1,112	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,082	1,076	1,018	1,041	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,132	1,125	1,101	1,123	
Perth .. ..	1,000	999	1,046	947	966	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,125	1,082	1,095	1,122	
Weighted Average ..	1,000	1,129	1,111	1,104	1,117	
RENT.						
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,085	1,072	1,120	1,138	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,047	1,032	1,101	1,119	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,048	1,048	1,095	1,121	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,043	1,054	1,032	1,031	
Perth .. ..	1,000	1,086	1,060	1,127	1,140	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,030	1,015	1,121	1,103	
Weighted Average ..	1,000	1,063	1,054	1,102	1,117	
GROCERIES, FOOD, AND RENT.						
Sydney .. ..	1,000	1,113	1,089	1,135	1,156	
Melbourne .. ..	1,000	1,111	1,096	1,105	1,115	
Brisbane .. ..	1,000	1,071	1,066	1,045	1,069	
Adelaide .. ..	1,000	1,094	1,094	1,071	1,083	
Perth .. ..	1,000	1,025	1,052	1,000	1,017	
Hobart .. ..	1,000	1,092	1,059	1,104	1,116	
Weighted Average ..	1,000	1,101	1,087	1,101	1,117	

\* For corresponding figures for previous years see Report No. 1 (pp. 26 to 39) and No. 2 (pp. 48 to 53) of Labour and Industrial Branch.

NOTE—The above figures are comparable in the horizontal lines but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns.

The weighted average result for the capital towns only is 1.4 per cent. higher than for the preceding quarter (January to March, 1913), 2.8 per cent. higher than for the corresponding quarter (April to June of 1912), 1.4 per cent. higher than the average for the year 1912, and 11.7 per cent. higher than the average for the year 1911.



Since 1911 the increase in cost of living has been greatest in Sydney (15.6 per cent.), followed in the order named by Hobart (11.6 per cent.), Melbourne (11.5 per cent.), Adelaide (8.3 per cent.), Brisbane (6.9 per cent.), and Perth (1.7 per cent.).

**6. Purchasing Power of Money.**—In the table given in the preceding paragraph attention was drawn to the fact that the index-numbers are comparable horizontally, but are not directly comparable in the vertical columns. In the following table results have been combined (a) shewing variations in cost of living from year to year in each town separately, and (b) shewing relative cost of living in the several towns, giving results which are in all respects comparable. The average cost for the six capital towns in the year 1911 has been taken as base. This base has been taken as equal to 20s. instead of 1000 as in the former tables.

**Purchasing Power of Money.**—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1913 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole. †

Year.	Sydney.		Melb'rne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.		Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1901 ... ..	17	10	17	5	15	5	17	3	20	6	17	5	17	7
1902 ... ..	19	7	18	1	16	0	17	3	21	7	17	10	18	7
1903 ... ..	19	2	17	7	15	9	16	9	21	8	17	11	18	2
1904 ... ..	17	5	17	1	14	8	16	3	20	10	17	1	17	2
1905 ... ..	18	9	17	7	15	5	17	6	20	11	17	9	18	0
1906 ... ..	18	8	17	7	15	7	17	10	20	5	18	0	18	0
1907 ... ..	18	6	17	6	15	11	17	11	19	9	17	9	17	11
1908 ... ..	19	9	18	6	17	1	19	1	20	0	18	5	19	0
1909 ... ..	19	9	18	1	17	0	19	10	19	9	19	0	19	0
1910 ... ..	19	11	18	10	17	6	20	2	20	6	19	0	19	5
1911 ... ..	20	7	19	0	18	4	21	2	22	6	19	1	20	0*
1912 ... ..	22	11	21	1	19	7	23	2	23	1	20	10	22	0
1912 { 1st Quarter	21	4	19	9	19	6	22	6	22	4	19	7	20	9
1912 { 2nd " "	22	5	20	10	19	6	23	2	23	8	20	2	21	9
1912 { 3rd " "	24	1	22	1	19	8	23	8	23	6	21	5	22	11
1912 { 4th " "	23	10	21	8	19	8	23	3	22	10	22	2	22	7
1913 { 1st " "	23	5	21	0	19	1	22	8	22	6	21	1	22	0
1913 { 2nd " "	23	10	21	2	19	7	22	11	22	11	21	3	22	4

\* Basis of Table. † Owing to the fact that five house agents erroneously excluded kitchens as a room in classifying house rents according to number of rooms, certain minor amendments have been made in this table, and the figures are therefore not identical with those published in Report No. 2 and Bulletin No. 1. The figures given herein are to be taken as replacing those previously published.

The above figures shew the variations in cost of living from year to year in each town separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several towns in each year (in the horizontal lines). It may be seen, for example, that 17s. 10d. in Sydney in 1901 was equivalent to 21s. 1d. in Melbourne, or 23s. 1d. in Perth in 1912, and to 23s. 10d. in Sydney, and 21s. 2d. in Melbourne in the second quarter of 1913.

While the figures in each vertical column shew the increase and decrease in cost of living from year to year in each town respectively, those in the horizontal lines shew the relative cost of living in any given year.

(i) *Groceries and Food only.*—The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to



groceries and food (46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.), and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

**Purchasing Power of Money.—Groceries and Food only.—Amount necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1913 to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost in the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.**

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 ...	18 4	19 4	19 4	20 7	23 8	20 3	19 4
1902 ...	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 6	25 6	21 0	21 1
1903 ...	20 7	19 6	19 9	19 8	25 8	21 1	20 4
1904 ...	17 6	18 4	17 10	18 10	24 3	19 8	18 5
1905 ...	19 5	19 1	18 11	19 10	25 2	20 7	19 8
1906 ...	19 3	18 11	19 2	19 8	24 9	20 11	19 7
1907 ...	18 9	18 6	18 11	19 0	23 11	20 2	19 1
1908 ...	20 7	19 11	20 6	20 2	24 6	21 1	20 7
1909 ...	20 3	19 0	19 8	20 6	24 3	21 10	20 1
1910 ...	20 0	19 2	20 0	20 0	25 0	21 6	20 1
1911 ...	19 9	18 8	20 4	20 5	26 11	21 2	<b>20 0*</b>
1912 ...	22 6	21 8	22 0	23 1	26 11	23 10	22 6
1912 { 1st quarter	20 9	19 9	21 11	22 0	26 0	21 10	21 0
2nd "	21 10	21 5	21 11	22 11	28 2	22 11	22 3
3rd "	23 11	23 2	22 1	23 10	27 4	24 8	23 9
4th "	23 6	22 3	22 3	23 6	26 1	25 9	23 2
1913 { 1st "	22 9	20 9	20 9	22 5	25 6	23 2	22 0
2nd "	<b>23 2</b>	<b>20 10</b>	<b>21 2</b>	<b>22 11</b>	<b>26 0</b>	<b>23 9</b>	<b>22 4</b>

\* Basis of Table.

(ii) *House Rent only.*—The following table gives similar particulars for *house rent only* the average for the six towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.).

**Purchasing Power of Money—House Rent—Amount payable in the Average in each Year from 1911 to 1913 for House Rent in each Capital Town, compared with a Rent of £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.†**

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 ...	17 3	14 8	9 9	12 7	16 0	13 4	15 1
1902 ...	17 3	14 11	9 10	12 7	15 11	13 5	15 2
1903 ...	17 4	14 11	10 1	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 3
1904 ...	17 5	15 3	10 2	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 4
1905 ...	17 10	15 5	10 5	14 0	14 9	13 7	15 8
1906 ...	17 11	15 8	10 6	15 3	14 4	13 9	15 11
1907 ...	18 4	16 1	11 6	16 3	13 8	14 2	16 4
1908 ...	18 7	16 7	12 4	17 5	13 7	14 7	16 10
1909 ...	19 2	16 10	13 3	18 10	13 4	15 0	17 5
1910 ...	19 10	18 4	14 0	20 4	13 11	15 6	18 5
1911 ...	21 10	19 5	15 4	22 3	16 3	16 1	<b>20 0*</b>
1912 ...	23 8	20 4	16 1	23 2	17 7	16 7	21 3
1912 { 1st quarter	22 4	19 8	16 0	23 3	17 0	16 3	20 6
2nd "	23 4	20 0	16 1	23 5	17 2	16 4	21 1
3rd "	24 7	20 7	16 2	23 5	18 0	16 10	21 10
4th "	24 4	20 11	16 0	22 11	18 3	16 11	21 7
1913 { 1st "	24 5	21 4	16 10	22 11	18 3	18 0	22 0
2nd "	<b>24 10</b>	<b>21 9</b>	<b>17 2</b>	<b>22 11</b>	<b>18 6</b>	<b>17 9</b>	<b>22 4</b>

\* Basis of Table.

† See footnote to Table on page 110.

7. **Increase in Cost of Living, 1913 and Previous Years.**—The following table has been prepared in order to shew for each capital town (a) the total increase (or decrease) in cost of living in the second quarter of the current year compared with each preceding year since 1901, and (b) amount of the percentage increase (or decrease) due, firstly to rise in prices of food and groceries, and secondly to house rent. The first part of the table shews the total increase (or decrease), the second part the increase (or decrease) due to food and groceries, and the third part the increase (or decrease) due to house rent. The sum of the percentages for any year and town shewn in the last two parts of the table must, of course, equal the corresponding total percentage in the first part of the table. Thus the total increase in the second quarter of 1913 in Sydney since the year 1903 is 24.38 per cent., of which an increase of 7.73 per cent. is due to higher cost of food and groceries, and the remaining 16.65 per cent. to increase in rent. In any case, where there has been a decrease (i.e., where cost of living was less in the past quarter than in preceding years) the fact is indicated by a negative sign.

**Percentage of Increase or Decrease in Cost of Living in 2nd Quarter 1913, Compared with Previous Years, 1901 to 1912.**

LOCALITY.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCREASE* 2ND QUARTER OF 1913, COMPARED WITH											
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.*	1912.*
Sydney ..	33.43	21.72	24.38	36.61	27.20	27.57	28.67	20.95	20.53	19.71	15.57	3.82
Melbourne	21.76	17.19	20.24	24.00	20.65	20.62	20.94	14.29	16.99	12.42	11.50	0.40
Brisbane	27.08	22.18	23.82	33.14	27.05	25.29	23.13	14.21	14.92	11.51	6.88	-0.17
Adelaide	32.60	32.75	36.93	41.06	31.20	28.56	28.14	20.23	15.72	13.69	8.34	-0.94
Perth ..	11.08	6.30	5.52	10.00	9.58	11.95	16.11	14.43	15.88	11.93	1.72	-0.75
Hobart ..	22.41	19.13	18.59	24.46	20.10	18.43	20.12	15.63	11.82	11.91	11.58	2.17
Average	27.09	20.21	22.72	30.24	23.99	23.88	24.56	17.59	17.89	15.28	11.70	1.51

**PERCENTAGE DUE TO COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

Sydney ..	15.48	5.35	7.73	18.50	11.39	11.91	13.75	7.44	8.43	9.11	9.38	1.67
Melbourne	5.10	1.64	4.46	8.53	5.91	6.40	7.74	2.88	5.94	5.03	6.50	-2.33
Brisbane	7.23	3.27	5.42	13.42	8.82	7.59	8.38	2.50	5.33	3.99	2.70	-2.52
Adelaide	7.99	8.11	11.52	14.88	10.26	10.78	12.76	8.39	7.14	8.45	7.00	-0.45
Perth ..	6.14	1.40	0.89	5.04	2.32	3.57	6.10	4.33	5.20	2.76	-2.43	-2.31
Hobart ..	11.99	9.06	8.76	14.21	10.49	9.20	11.80	8.46	5.83	7.07	8.00	-0.15
Average	9.82	4.05	6.39	13.24	8.58	8.99	10.67	5.48	6.97	6.83	6.82	-0.50

**PERCENTAGE DUE TO INCREASE IN HOUSE RENTS.**

Sydney ..	17.95	16.37	16.65	18.11	15.81	15.66	14.92	13.51	12.10	10.60	6.19	2.15
Melbourne	16.66	15.55	15.78	15.47	14.74	14.22	13.20	11.41	11.05	7.39	5.00	2.73
Brisbane	19.85	18.91	18.40	19.72	18.23	17.70	14.75	11.71	9.59	7.52	4.18	2.35
Adelaide	24.61	24.64	25.41	26.17	20.94	17.78	15.38	11.84	8.58	5.24	1.34	-0.49
Perth ..	4.94	4.90	4.63	4.96	7.26	8.38	10.01	10.10	10.68	9.17	4.15	1.56
Hobart ..	10.42	10.07	9.83	10.25	9.61	9.23	8.32	7.17	5.99	4.84	3.58	2.32
Average	17.27	16.16	16.33	17.00	15.41	14.89	13.89	12.11	10.92	8.45	4.88	2.01

\* The negative sign indicates a decrease.

## SECTION V.—WHOLESALE PRICES.

1. **Index-Numbers.**—The decline in the general level of wholesale prices which set in towards the end of the year 1912, and which continued in a greater degree during January to March, 1913, was maintained during the second quarter of this year, when the index-number stood at 1095, compared with 1112 for the preceding quarter. This decline (amounting to a fall of 1.5 per cent.) is shewn on the graph on page 80 hereinbefore, and may be contrasted with the rapid increase (from 1065 to 1165) which characterised the corresponding quarters of the preceding year (1912). It is obvious, therefore, that the conditions governing the price movements in these two periods are entirely different. In the second quarter of 1912 the rise, though general in character, occurred mainly in Groups II. (Textiles), III. (Agricultural Produce), IV. (Dairy Produce), and VI. (Meat), and was to a great extent consequent on the prevalent drought. In the corresponding quarter of 1913, when the weather conditions and the prospects for the season were generally favourable, the movement, though in this case a decline, again occurred, mainly in the price of commodities which are peculiarly subject to seasonal influences, such as flour, bran, pollard, oats, oatmeal, barley, chaff, straw, potatoes, and onions.

The index-numbers for years prior to 1913 are shewn in the following table:—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers, 1871 to 1913.

Year ..	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.*	1913.†
Index-No.‡	1,229	1,121	945	974	1,021	1,115	993	1,003	1,000	1,172	1,112	1,095

\* First quarter only.

† Second quarter only.

‡ See graph on page 80 hereinbefore.

2. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Of the eight groups into which the 92 commodities are classified, the index-numbers for the quarter shewed a considerable fall in the case of Group III. (Agricultural Produce), a slight fall in Group IV. (Dairy Produce), and a slight rise in Group VII. (Building Materials), while in the remaining five groups they shewed but little change, one way or the other, since the preceding quarter.

The following table shews the index-numbers for each group and for all groups combined in the last quarter (April to June, 1913), compared with those for the preceding quarter (January to March, 1913), and for the corresponding quarter last year (April to June, 1912), the average for the year 1911 being taken as base (= 1000) as heretofore).

## Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers for Three Months, April to June, 1913.

GROUP.	No. of Com- modities	INDEX-NUMBERS.		
		April to June, 1912.	Jan. to March, 1913.	April to June, 1913.
I. Metals and Coal .. .. .	14	1,010	1,046	1,044
II. Textiles, Leather, etc. .. .	10	978	1,070	1,059
III. Agricultural Produce .. .	16	1,384	1,174	1,128
IV. Dairy Produce .. .. .	9	1,305	1,059	1,047
V. Groceries and Tobacco .. .	21	1,065	1,029	1,026
VI. Meat .. .. .	5	1,204	1,270	1,267
VII. Building Materials .. .	10	1,045	1,122	1,136
VIII. Chemicals .. .. .	7	967	982	983
All Groups* .. .. .	92	1,165	1,112	1,095

\* Weighted Average.

It may be seen that in Groups VII. and VIII. prices were higher than in either the quarter immediately preceding, or the corresponding quarter of 1912. In Groups III., IV., and V. prices were lower in the second quarter of 1913 than in either of the aforementioned quarters, while in Groups I., II., and VI. prices were lower than in the quarter immediately preceding, but higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1912.

As the prices of the commodities included in Groups I., II., V., VII., and VIII. were generally subject to only slight fluctuations, further reference need not be made to these groups. In the following paragraphs brief remarks are given in regard to the chief features of the rise and fall in the price of commodities in Groups III., IV., and VII. only.

**3. Agricultural Produce.** Of the 16 commodities in this group, only three rose in price during the quarter, viz.;—Wheat, from 3s. 7½d. per bushel in the first quarter of 1913 to 3s. 8¾d. in the second quarter, maize from 3s. 11½d. per bushel to 4s. 3d., and peas from 4s. ¼d. to 4s. 1¾d. The supplies of the two latter products during the last quarter were very small. The balance of the commodities in this group all fell in price, with the exception of malt, which remained stationary. Flour fell from £8 17s. 1d. per ton to £8 13s. 9d., and bran and pollard fell in sympathy, the former from £5 10s. 5d. per ton to £5 4s. 1d., and the latter from £5 16s. 8d. per ton to £5 3s. 8d. Victorian oats fell from 2s. 4¼d. per bushel to 2s. 2¾d., and oatmeal from

£17 11s. 8d. per ton to £16 11s. 8d. The price of barley fell from 4s. 4d. per bushel to 3s. 11d. for malting, and from 3s. 2½d. to 2s. 11½d. for feed. Manger hay fell from £5 18s. 4d. to £5 14s. 3d. per ton, and the prices of chaff and straw also fell in sympathy, No. 1 grade of the former from £3 14s. 2d. per ton to £3 9s. 2d., and Victorian straw from £2 0s. 5d. to £1 14s. 3d. The fall in the price of potatoes for the quarter was 10s. per ton, from £5 5s. to £4 15s., but the fall in price from month to month was much more marked, the average prices having been for March £7 10s. per ton, for April £6 0s. 4d., for May £4 11s. 7d., and for June £3 19s. 7d. Onions only fell 2s. 4d. per ton, from £6 8s. 4d. to £6 6s. This general fall in the prices of agricultural products is alleged to be due to the improved weather conditions in March, when copious rainfalls assured good winter feed for stock in Australia.

4. **Dairy Produce.**—The index-number for this group fell from 1059 for the quarter ended March, 1913, to 1047 for the June quarter. Ham fell from 11½d. per lb. to 10¼d., bacon from 9¼d. to 8½d., cheese from 9½d. to 8½d., and butter from 11½d. to 11d. Lard, honey, and beeswax remained stationary, while eggs rose from 11d. per doz. to 1s. 3d., and condensed milk (Bacchus Marsh) from 5s. 7¾d. per doz. tins to 5s. 9¾d. In the case of the first four above mentioned commodities, the improved weather prospects at the end of the previous quarter was largely responsible for the fall in prices.

5. **Building Materials.**—This is the only group which shews a rise of any importance in the index-number, the change being from 1122 in the first quarter of 1913 to 1136 in the second. All timber rose nearly 3 per cent. in price, except shelving, which remained stationary. Cement fell from 13s. 10d. per cask to 13s. 4½d., and white lead from £37 3s. 4d. per ton to £36, while Welsh slates remained at £13 10s. per 1000.

## SECTION VI.—IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEX- NUMBERS.

1. **General.**—The list of commodities included in the investigation into import and export prices for the year 1912, as well as the mass units, units of measurement, and sources of information, are the same as those in the previous investigation for the years 1901 to 1911, particulars of which are given on pages 66 to 68 of Report No. 1 on "Prices, Price-Indexes and Cost of Living in Australia." These index-numbers are only computed annually, the data being obtained from the returns of imports and exports.

2. **Index - Numbers.**—The index-number for import and export prices in the Commonwealth for 1912 was 1067, compared with 1000 for 1911, which was taken as the base. This gives an increase of nearly 6½ per cent., compared with an increase during the same period of 17 per cent. in wholesale prices and 10 per cent. in cost of living. The index-numbers for previous years for the various groups and for all groups together are shewn in the following table:—

**Commonwealth Import and Export Values. Index-Numbers for each Group,  
and all Groups combined.**

YEAR.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Textiles.	III. Agricul- tural Produce	IV. Meat, Dairy Produce, etc.	V. Grocer- ies, etc.	VI. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.*
1901 .. ..	1,046	730	884	978	994	979	911
1902 .. ..	1,015	828	1,011	1,010	969	934	959
1903 .. ..	931	885	863	993	956	842	918
1904 .. ..	888	935	707	915	908	877	870
1905 .. ..	867	915	950	888	902	899	907
1906 .. ..	962	947	951	888	889	906	921
1907 .. ..	1,017	987	823	929	1,005	937	935
1908 .. ..	981	882	1,148	1,004	1,002	902	993
1909 .. ..	958	879	1,081	914	937	970	952
1910 .. ..	980	1,013	1,033	940	970	1,017	989
1911 .. ..	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
1912 .. ..	1,061	980	1,238	1,038	1,030	1,044	1,067

\* Weighted Average.

3. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Of the six groups into which the 44 commodities are classified, the index-numbers for 1912 shew a rise in all groups with the exception of Group II. (Textiles), the rise varying from 3.8 per cent in the case of Group IV.

(Meat and Dairy Produce) to 23.8 per cent. in Group III. (Agricultural Produce), while the fall in Group II. (Textiles) amounted to only 2 per cent. In the following paragraphs of this Section reference is made to the chief features of the rise and fall in price of commodities in each group.

4. **Metals and Coal.**—The price of coal at the pit's mouth remained practically stationary, and the rise in pig iron was very slight, but copper, tin, and lead all rose considerably in price, copper as much as 27 per cent., tin 10 per cent., and lead 37 per cent.

5. **Textiles.**—The only commodity which did not shew a rise was raw cotton, which fell from 6.56 to 5.97d. per lb.

6. **Agricultural Produce.**—All commodities in this group, without exception, shewed rises, owing, doubtless, to the pooriness of the season 1911-12.

7. **Meat, Dairy Produce, etc.**—Apart from mutton and lamb, which fell 15 per cent., and a slight fall in the price of bacon, the prices of all commodities rose.

8. **Groceries, etc.**—Sugar, cocoa, and linseed fell slightly, while tea, coffee, rum, wine, and tobacco, rose in price.

9. **Miscellaneous.**—With the exception of nitrate of soda and carbonate of soda, which fell slightly, there was a rise in price in all the commodities in this group.



## SECTION VII.—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

1. **General.**—The systematic collection of information as to strikes and lock-outs\* throughout the Commonwealth was first undertaken by this Bureau as from 1st January, 1913, and particulars concerning disputes occurring during the first quarter of this year were furnished in Labour Bulletin No. 1, published in May last. Information as to the method adopted for the collection of such particulars was also furnished in that Bulletin (see page 37 thereof), and need not be repeated here. Particulars of new disputes which commenced during the second quarter (April to June), as well as of the number of working days and amount of wages lost during the quarter in disputes which began before April, but were still in progress at the beginning of the quarter, are given in the following paragraphs. The first table shews the number and magnitude of disputes occurring in each State and Territory, the second furnishes particulars of disputes classified according to Industrial Group.

2. **Number and Magnitude of Disputes in each State—April to June, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of strikes and lock-outs in each State and the Northern Territory during the second quarter of the year, 1913, the corresponding figures for the Commonwealth for the preceding quarter are also included for comparative purposes:—

The number of new disputes throughout the Commonwealth during April, May, and June, was 49, being 10 in excess of the number which occurred in the first quarter of the year. The number of workpeople involved in these new disputes during the second quarter was 16,830, as compared with 13,234 in the first quarter; and the former number, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, gives a total of 21,041 workpeople involved in disputes in the second quarter, as compared with 13,825 during January to March. The number of working days lost through new disputes in the second quarter was 126,602, which is considerably greater than the number lost (98,601) during the previous quarter. Four disputes which commenced prior to the beginning of April continued into the second quarter, and were responsible for a loss of 138,700 working days. The most important of these old disputes was the stoppage of work at the Scuthern Collieries, New South Wales, and this accounted for the greater portion of the working days and wages lost during the quarter through old disputes.

It is estimated that the total loss in wages during the second quarter was £131,008, compared with £55,887 in the preceding quarter.

\* For the purpose of these investigations a strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees. A lockout is a refusal on the part of an employer, or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees. Under these definitions certain small disputes resulting in stoppage of work are excluded.

(i.) *New South Wales*.—Of the 49 disputes which commenced during the second quarter no fewer than 35 occurred in New South Wales. The majority of these industrial disturbances took place at the northern collieries and were mostly of comparatively short duration. The number of workpeople directly involved in the 35 disputes in this State was 5398, while 7809 were involuntarily thrown out of employment as a result of the disputes. The majority of those who were indirectly involved were mining employees at Broken Hill. The number of working days lost owing to new disputes was 82,221. Three disputes affecting colliery employees occurred during the first quarter and continued during the second, causing an estimated loss of 133,100 working days. The loss in wages for all disputes in this State during the second quarter is estimated at £104,585.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—The number of disputes in this State during the second quarter was five, being one below the number which occurred during the previous quarter. The workpeople involved numbered 1977, the number of working days lost being 11,553, causing an estimated loss in wages of £4639.

(iii.) *Other States*.—Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania were comparatively free from industrial disputes during the second quarter, only two disputes occurring in each of these States. In the Northern Territory one dispute took place, particulars concerning which are shewn separately in the subjoined table.

**Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Disputes in each State and Territory during April to June, 1913.**

State.			No. of New Disputes	No. of establishments Involved in New Disputes	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *	
					Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.		
New South Wales .. ..			35	42	5,398	7,809	13,207	82,221	133,100	215,321	£104,585	
Victoria .. ..			5	7	1,967	10	1,977	11,553	..	11,553	4,639	
Queensland .. ..			2	3	1,310	..	1,310	29,660	5,600	35,260	19,750	
South Australia .. ..			2	2	18	..	18	206	..	206	91	
Western Australia .. ..			2	2	140	..	140	440	..	440	259	
Tasmania .. ..			2	2	8	..	8	22	..	22	9	
Northern Territory .. ..			1	4	131	39	170	2,500	..	2,500	1,675	
C'wealth {			2nd Quarter ..	49	62	8,972	7,858	16,830	126,602	138,700	265,302	131,008
			1st Quarter ..	39	376	11,783	1,451	13,234	98,601	26,920	125,521	55,887

\* Total loss during the quarter through all disputes, both new and old.

**3. Number and Magnitude of Disputes in Different Industrial Groups—April to June, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of disputes in the Commonwealth during the second quarter of the year, 1913, classified according to industrial groups. The system of classification selected is similar to that adopted in connection with labour organisations, unemployment, rates of wages, etc. (see Report No. 2—Labour and Industrial Branch, page 6).

It may be seen that of the 49 new disputes no less than 27 occurred in Class VIII. (Mines, Quarries, etc.). In New South Wales 22 disputes occurred in connection with mining, while the remaining five disputes in this group took place in Victoria (three), Queensland and Western Australia (one each). The disputes in the mining industry were responsible for the greater part of the loss in working days and wages during April to June, the number of workpeople affected directly and indirectly by such disputes being 9492, the working days lost 189,799, and the estimated loss in wages £90,741. In Class IX. (Railway and Tramway Services) a serious dispute arose at Broken Hill over the non-union question. The number of men directly involved was about 300, but owing to the stoppage of railway transport the employees at the various mines in the district were involuntarily thrown out of employment.

Another railway dispute occurred at Darling Harbour, Sydney, owing to the claim of the railway porters for an increase in wages from 8s. to 9s. per day, and certain other concessions concerning hours, overtime, etc. This dispute continued for a week and caused considerable public inconvenience. Work was ultimately resumed on reference of the dispute to a Royal Commission of enquiry. Other industries affected by industrial disturbances during the second quarter were:—coopering, boilermaking, cycle, farriering, woolworking, interstate shipping, and labourers on sewerage and railway construction works.

**Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Disputes during April to June, 1913, According to Industrial Groups.**

Industrial Group.	No. of Disputes	No. of Establishments Involved	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
I. Wood, Sawmill, Timber, etc.	1	1	29	..	29	87	..	87	£ 40
II. Engineering, Metal Works etc.	4	11	179	200	379	3,944	..	3,944	1,828
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc	1	1	165	230	395	1,975	..	1,975	910
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. ..	27	30	7,254	2,238	9,492	51,099	138,700	189,799	90,741
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	5	5	820	4,936	5,756	65,010	..	65,010	34,878
X. Other Land Transport ..	1	1	10	..	10	30	..	30	11
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. ..	1	1	30	6	36	66	..	66	22
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	9	12	485	248	733	4,391	..	4,391	2,587
<b>Total 2nd Quarter ..</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>8,972</b>	<b>7,858</b>	<b>16,830</b>	<b>126,602</b>	<b>138,700</b>	<b>265,302</b>	<b>131,008</b>
<b>„ 1st Quarter ..</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>11,783</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>13,234</b>	<b>98,601</b>	<b>26,920</b>	<b>125,521</b>	<b>55,887</b>

**4. Particulars of Principal Disputes during the Second Quarter, 1913.**—In the table on page 122 particulars are given regarding several of the most important disputes which occurred during the quarter.

(i.) *New South Wales*.—In this State the most important disputes, so far as the number of men involved and the loss in working days and wages are concerned, were those of the tramway employees at Broken Hill, the railway porters, shunters, and others at Darling Harbour, Sydney, the boilermakers and shipwrights at Cockatoo Island, and the engine drivers and others at the Mount Boppy mines. The disputes at the various collieries on the northern coalfields were numerous, but of short duration. Three stoppages which began prior to the 1st April were the cause of a large loss in working days and wages during the second quarter. The dispute at the Southern Collieries was terminated during the second quarter, but the disputes at the Stockton Borehole and Lambton B. Collieries were unsettled at the end of June.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—In Victoria the principal disputes occurred at the State Coal Mine, Wonthaggi, where work was stopped on two occasions. The first dispute arose over the question of payment for shooting and filling machine-cut coal in No. 9 pit, the men claiming 1s. 10½d per ton and the manager offering 1s. 7d., while the second dispute occurred owing to the dismissal of two men who were engaged in contract coal getting. These men are stated to have ceased work prior to the recognised time and were dismissed. The miners claimed that they should be reinstated, and on their request being refused they ceased work. Both disputes lasted for about 10 days, and it is estimated that the total loss of wages amounted to £4200. Two other important disputes commenced during the quarter. The members of the Federated Mining Employees' Association, after strenuous efforts to induce all miners in the Bendigo district to join the Association, decided to withdraw their members from three mines on account of non-unionists being employed. The men ceased work on the 30th June, and the dispute was therefore pending at the end of the quarter. The labourers engaged on the sewerage construction work at Geelong ceased work in June, owing to the refusal of their claim for an increase from 8s. to 9s. per day. This matter was also unsettled at the end of the quarter.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—Mining operations on the Cloncurry field were suspended on the 5th June, the men objecting to contract or piece-work. A large number of men were affected, and the dispute was pending at the end of June.

(iv.) *Other States*.—In South Australia only two minor disputes occurred affecting drivers and weir construction workers respectively. Western Australia was also comparatively free from industrial strife. A dispute at the Golden Ridge Mine concerning the employment of foreigners was settled after a conference between the employers' and employees' representatives. Only two small disputes occurred in Tasmania during the quarter in question.

A dispute of some importance occurred at Port Darwin, Northern Territory, and according to official accounts affected 170 men. The cause of the trouble was the refusal of a claim by the men for an increase in weekly wages from £3 2s. 4d. to £4. After the dispute had run for about five weeks the men returned to work, although their demands had not been conceded.

**Industrial Disputes.—Particulars of Principal Disputes beginning during  
Second Quarter, 1913.**

Industry and Locality Affected.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date of Commencement and Termination.	Alleged Cause or Object	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<b>New South Wales—</b> Tramway Employees (Broken Hill).	300	4,530	April 1st to April 19th	Employees of Silverton Tramway Co. refused to work with non-unionists.	Men resumed work. Seven specified officers of the Company withdrew from membership of Union. Agreed that all men be reinstated and that there be no victimisation.
Railway Porters (Darling Harbour).	400	396	April 2nd to April 9th	Men claimed an increase from 8s. to 9s. per day, 48 hours per week, time and a-half for all overtime, double pay for all Sunday work, and abolition of the two hours meal break.	Work resumed on reference of dispute to Royal Commission.
Boilermakers (Cockatoo Island).	146	200	April 30th to May 10th	Dispute between the Boilermakers and Shipwrights' Unions regarding the line of demarcation between the trades.	Some of the items of Boilermakers' claims were conceded. Regarding others, it was agreed to refer same to special board for decision.
Wool-workers (Botany).	165	230	June 16th to June 20th	Alleged wrongful dismissal of Union members.	Men reinstated after apology to foremen. Matter to be considered by proper tribunal. No victimisation on either side. New hands engaged to be discharged.
<b>Victoria—</b> Coal Miners, State Coal Mine (Wonthaggi).	164 to 804	..	May 8th to May 20th	Refusal of men to accept 1s. 7d. per ton for shooting and filling machine-cut coal in No. 9 pit.	Manager agreed to increase rate to 1s. 7½d. per ton, and in event of men not earning shift work rates of 10s 2d. per day to make their wages up to that amount.
Coal Miners, State Coal Mine (Wonthaggi).	800	..	June 4th to June 14th	Against dismissal of two workmen.	Railway Commissioners declined to discuss matters in dispute until men had returned to work. Men decided by ballot to resume.
Sewerage Workers (Construction) (Geelong).	175	..	June 25th. Unsettled at end of Quarter.	Labourers claim 9s. per day.	Not settled at end of quarter.
<b>Queensland—</b> Mining Employees (Cloncurry).	1100 to 1500	..	June 5th. Unsettled at end of Quarter.	Objection of employees to continue contract system of working. Management of the various mines desired to continue contract or piece - work system.	Not settled at end of quarter.
Railway Workers (Construction) (Mt. Mulligan).	60	..	May 8th to June 18th	Men objected to piece and contract work and desired to establish day labour system.	Day labour and piece work conditions agreed upon as usually existing on other Government Railway Construction Works.
<b>W. Australia—</b> Miners (Golden Ridge).	120	..	June 12th to June 13th	Men objected to the introduction of foreign European labour.	Foreigners to be employed on the one machine. Preference to be given to British labour.

## SECTION VIII.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.

1. **General.**—In the first issue of this Bulletin it was pointed out that for the purposes of the statistical investigations made by this Bureau in regard to variations in wages, a change in rate of wages is defined as a change in the weekly rate of remuneration of a certain class of employees apart from any change in the nature of the work performed, or apart from any revision of rates due to increased length of service or experience.\*

Information was also given in Bulletin No. 1 as to the sources of information and methods of collection and computation (see page 41). In addition to the organisations and persons specified therein as furnishing returns to this Bureau, it may be mentioned that the various Government Departments have also sent in returns concerning changes in rates of wage affecting their employees.

2. **Number and Magnitude of Changes in each State, April to June, 1913.**—During the period, April to June, 1913, a considerable number of awards and determinations of industrial courts and wages boards came into operation, whilst several industrial agreements were filed under Commonwealth and State Acts. Particulars as to the methods by which the various changes were effected will be furnished annually.

During the three months under review particulars concerning 81 changes in rates of wages were collected. In a few cases some difficulty was experienced in obtaining from the organisations or persons concerned reliable and complete information as to the number of persons affected. In all cases where the information furnished in the schedules was incomplete or unsatisfactory, further inquiries were made, and the returns were checked by reference to Census results, industrial statistics, and factory reports. The total number of workpeople affected by the 81 changes which occurred in the past quarter was 41,217, and the amount of increase in wages per week was £8751. These figures are higher than those for the first quarter, when 33,504 persons benefited to the extent of £8394 per week. It may be seen, therefore, that the upward tendency in wages continued during the second quarter, when several important increases came into effect. The number of industrial agreements included in the figures was also higher than in the preceding quarter.

As regards industrial agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act it should be observed that such agreements as extend to more than one State have been counted as a change in each State affected. This is necessary in order that the total number of changes in each individual State may be ob-

\* It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as (a) Changes in rates of pay due to promotions, progressive increments, or, on the other hand, to reduction in pay or grade to inefficient workers, and (b) Changes in average earnings in an occupation due to a change in the proportions which higher paid classes of workers bear to lower paid classes.

tained. In the classification of changes according to industries, however, each agreement has, of course, been counted only once. For example, the agreement affecting brewery employees is operative in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia, and has accordingly been included in the following table as a change in each of those States, but in the table shewing the number of changes according to Industrial Groups the agreement has been recorded as one change only, i.e., as a change affecting brewery employees (see Class III).

The following table gives particulars of changes occurring in each State and the Commonwealth during the second quarter of the year 1913, as well as the total figures for the Commonwealth for the first quarter of the year.

As regards the number of persons affected, the particulars given refer to the number of persons ordinarily engaged in the various industries. The results as to the amount of increase in wages are computed for a full week's work for all persons ordinarily engaged in the several industries and occupations affected, and in case of changes in existing minimum rates under awards or determinations of industrial tribunals, it has ordinarily been assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the employees in each occupation received the minimum rates of wages before and after the change.

It should be clearly understood that the figures given in the last line of the following table (amount of increase per week) do not relate to the increase *each* week, but only to the increase in a single week on the assumption that the full number of persons ordinarily engaged in the particular trade or occupation affected by the change is employed during that week. It is obvious, therefore, that the aggregate effect per annum cannot be obtained without making due allowance for unemployment and for occupations in which employment is seasonal or intermittent. It is also obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year, and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid *per annum* can be made, until the determining factors have been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries. The necessary investigations in regard to these two matters are now being made.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes, Persons Affected and Aggregate Amount of Increase per week in each State, April to June, 1913.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Commonwealth.	
							2nd. Quarter.	1st. Quarter.
No. of Changes* ..	35	19	10	5	9	3	81*	49
No. of Persons Affected	25,735	6,828	2,792	1,190	2,262	2,410	41,217	33,504
Total Amount of Increase per Week £	5,680	1,354	565	535	226	391	8,751	8,394
Average Increase per Head per Week	4s. 5d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 1d.	9s. 0d.	2s. 0d.	3s. 3d.	4s. 3d.	5s. 0d.

\* Industrial Agreements filed under the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act, if operative in more than one State, are counted as a separate change in each State affected.



In addition to the determinations of wages boards for which particulars are included in the above table, several determinations came into force which affected working conditions so far as hours of labour, overtime rates, etc., are concerned, but did not result in any change in weekly rates of wages. In Victoria three determinations which came into force during the quarter are not included in the table. An appeal was lodged against the determination of the Fuel and Fodder Board, and after the termination of the quarter the Court of Industrial Appeals amended the rates of wages for certain classes of work. Particulars concerning this change will, therefore, be included in the next issue of the Labour Bulletin. Owing to insufficient data being available, particulars of the changes affecting tie makers and coal miners are also omitted for the present from the above figures.

In Tasmania particulars concerning two changes which came into operation during the first quarter, but which were excluded from the tabulation owing to insufficient data, are now included in the above figures. These changes relate to the determinations which affected the wages of employees at hotels, coffee palaces, etc., and workers employed in connection with threshing machines.

**3. Number and Magnitude of Changes in Industrial Groups, April to June, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of changes during the second quarter of the current year classified in industrial groups:—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected and Aggregate Amount of Increase per week according to Industrial Groups, April to June, 1913.**

Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Amount of Increase per week.	Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Amount of Increase per week.
			£				£
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. . .	2	237	60	IX. Rail and Tramway Services . .	3	3,897	745
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	4	700	135	X. Other Land Transport . .	3	215	68
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	12	4,891	963	XI. Shipping, etc. . .	3	136	55
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	1	4,100	805	XII. Agricultural, etc. . .	1	408	220
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	2	1,375	199	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . .	3	5,050	1,495
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	17	10,532	1,936	XIV. Miscellaneous . .	15	5,235	1,291
VII. Building . .	4	2,285	593				
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. .	5	2,156	186				
				TOTAL { 2nd Quarter, 1913	75*	41,217	8,751
				1st Quarter, 1913	49	33,504	8,394

\* In this table an Industrial Agreement filed under the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act has been counted one change only, although such Agreement may be operative in more than one State.

It will be seen that the largest number of changes occurred in Group VI. (Other Manufacturing), in which there were no fewer than 17 changes, affecting 10,532 persons. The occupations affected by these changes comprise, among others, coachmakers (in New South Wales and Queensland), soap and candle makers (in New South Wales and Queensland), gas employees (in New South Wales), glass bottle makers (in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia), and rubber workers (in Victoria). The next group in order, according to the number of changes and persons affected, is Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), in which the principal changes affected sewerage, water supply, and municipal employees (in New South Wales), engine drivers, firemen,

etc. (in New South Wales, Victoria, and West Australia), and theatrical employees (in Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia). In Group III. (Food, Drink, etc.), the industries affected were brewing (in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and West Australia), jam (in Victoria), meat (in Queensland), aerated waters (in New South Wales), and tea packing (in Victoria), while in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), important alterations occurred (in New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania), in the wages of persons engaged in domestic duties, such as cooks, waiters, barmen, and other hotel and restaurant workers. Employees (male and female) in the clothing trade in New South Wales received an increase in wages, whilst the railway employees (guards, porters, shunters, and others) in that State received an advance in wages in April last. In Western Australia industrial agreements affecting workers in the mining industry, (Group VIII.), were arranged to come into operation at the beginning of May.

## SECTION IX.—ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

1. **General.**—The following table shews the total number of immigrants, the cost of whose passage to this country was wholly or partly borne by the State Governments, up to the end of the year 1906 and the number arriving in each year since that date:—

### Commonwealth.—Number of Assisted, Selected, or Nominated Immigrants.

Particulars.	To end of 1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	Jan. to June, 1913.	Total.
No. of Immigrants ..	648,601	5,097	6,367	9,820	16,781	39,796	46,712	20,864	794,038

During the six years, 1907 to 1912 inclusive, the total number of assisted immigrants was 124,573, an average of 20,762 per annum and 5190 per quarter, while the number arriving in 1912 was 46,712, or 11,678 per quarter, compared with 11,520 during January to March, 1913, and 9344 during April to June, 1913.

2. **Number of Assisted Immigrants arriving in each State, April to June, 1913.**—The following table shews the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in each State during the second quarter of the current year:—

### Assisted Immigrants. Number Arriving in each State, April to June, 1913.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Selected ..	241	1,965	76	210	389	..	2,881
Nominated ..	1,096	1,455	1,058	806	1,985	63	6,463
TOTAL	1,337	3,420	1,134	1,016	2,374	63	9,344

During the second quarter of 1913, the number of selected immigrants was 32 per cent. of the whole, while during the first quarter it amounted to 45 per cent.

The number of selected immigrants during the second quarter of 1913, was 2881, as against 2569\* during the first quarter, an increase of 12 per cent., while the number of nominated during the second quarter was 6463, and during the first quarter 8951,\* a decrease of 38 per cent. The total number of assisted immigrants for the corresponding periods were 9344 and 11,520, a decrease of 23 per cent., this decrease being due entirely to the smaller number of nominated immigrants in New South Wales, which fell from 4133 to 1096.

**3. Number of Assisted Immigrants Classified in Industrial Groups, April to June, 1913.**—The following table gives particulars of assisted immigrants of each sex, classified according to industrial groups, dependants being specified separately:—

**Assisted Immigrants.—Classified according to Sex and Industrial Group, April to June, 1913.**

Industrial Group.	Males.	Females.	Industrial Group.	Males.	Females.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	110	..	X. Other Land Transport	60	..
II. Engineering, Metals, etc.	258	..	XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. ..	12	..
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. .. ..	62	7	XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural .. ..	1,353	3
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. .. ..	74	113	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. .. ..	50	1,060
V. Books, Printing, Binding, etc. .. ..	35	5	XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous ..	669	65
VI. Other Manufacturing	92	21	Dependants { Adults .. ..	233	2,056
VII. Building .. ..	272	..	{ Children under 12 years ..	1,362	1,281
VIII. Mining .. ..	66	..			
IX. Rail and Tramway Transport .. ..	25	..	TOTAL .. ..	4,733	4,611

As regards males, it may be seen that by far the greatest number are in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.). Of the 1353 male immigrants in that group 165 arrived in New South Wales, 709 in Victoria, and 265 in Western Australia. The number of male immigrants in this group during the first quarter of 1913 was 1388, so that the falling off is under 3 per cent. The majority of these immigrants, 79 per cent., during the second quarter of 1913, were selected. Of the 1060 females in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.) 162 arrived in New South Wales, 409 in Victoria, and 289 in Western Australia. There was also a falling off of 6 per cent. in the numbers of the female immigrants in this group for the second quarter from those in the first, the corresponding figures being 1060 and 1126.\* Two-thirds of the females in this group during the second quarter were selected. Of the total number of immigrants 4932, or 53 per cent., were dependants, the proportion for the first quarter being 60 per cent.

\* Figures revised since the issue of Labour Bulletin No. 1.

## SECTION X.—STATE FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

1. **General.**—In addition to the six State Bureaux for which particulars were furnished in Labour Bulletin No. 1, returns of operations of the Labour Office of the Public Works Department of New South Wales have now been received, and are included in the following tables, both for the current and the preceding quarter.

2. **Applications and Positions Filled in Each State.**—The following table shews the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the second quarter of 1913. It will be seen that the total number of applications for employment was 26,127, as against 9601 applications by employers for workers, and 8346 positions filled. The corresponding figures for the first quarter of the year were 23,209 applications for employment (2923 or 12.6 per cent. less than in the second quarter), 10,798 applications from employers (1197 or 12.4 per cent. more than in the second quarter), and 8978 positions filled (632 or 7.5 per cent. more than in the second quarter).

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions filled in different States, April to June, 1913.**

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	Vacant at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.	Total.	
New South Wales .. ..	233	2,555	2,788	31	1,782	1,813	1,805
Victoria .. .. .	1,400	8,833	10,233	89	2,088	2,177	2,000
Queensland .. .. .	622	2,492	3,114	3	1,572	1,575	1,362
South Australia .. ..	962	4,222	5,184	..	1,342	1,342	1,342
Western Australia .. ..	171	4,561	4,732	359	2,263	2,622	1,773
Tasmania .. .. .	12	64	76	..	72	72	64
COMMONWEALTH .. ..	3,400	22,727	26,127	482	9,119	9,601	8,346

*NOTE.*—Any deductions which can be drawn from the above figures as to the relative state of the labour market in the several States are subject to certain limitations, inasmuch as the scope and functions of the Bureaux are by no means identical. (See Remarks on pages 44 and 45 of Labour Bulletin No. 1.)

The above figures shew that in each State the applications for employment were largely in excess of the positions available, there being 367 positions open for every 1000 applications for employment (for the first quarter there were 465 positions open for every 1000 applications). The proportion of positions available to number of applications was least in Victoria with 212 positions for every 1000 applications, and next least in South Australia (258), followed by Queensland (505), Western Australia (554), New South Wales (650),

and Tasmania (947). Out of every 1000 applicants for vacancies, 319 (as against 386 for the preceding quarter) obtained work, and 869 (against 831) vacancies were filled out of every 1000 offered.

### 3. Applications and Positions Filled in Various Industrial Groups.

—The following table furnishes particulars for the second quarter of the current year of the operations of the Free Labour Bureaux, classified according to industrial groups:—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions filled in different Industrial Occupations, April to June 1913.**

Industry Group.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	Vacant at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc. . . . .	52	275	327	10	62	72	59
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.* . .	598	2,020	2,618	1	189	190	175
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	12	90	102	1	35	36	33
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots . . . . .	..	18	18	3	30	33	4
V. Books, Printing, Binding . . . . .	14	124	138	..	12	12	10
VI. Other Manufacturing . . . . .	8	38	46	2	3	5	3
VII. Building . . . . .	639	2,089	2,728	3	1,139	1,142	1,127
VIII. Mining . . . . .	13	204	217	4	181	185	185
IX. Rail and Tram Services† . . . . .	988	3,605	4,593	..	1,183	1,183	1,183
X. Other Land Transport . . . . .	7	98	105	..	21	21	11
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . . . .	10	45	55	..	5	5	2
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural, etc.‡ . . . .	204	2,302	2,506	193	2,501	2,694	2,307
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . . . .	98	1,371	1,461	246	1,106	1,352	653
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous § . . . .	757	8,961	9,718	19	2,652	2,671	2,594
TOTAL . . . . .	3,400	22,727	26,127	482	9,119	9,601	8,346

\* Including railway and tramway workshops. † Excluding railway and tramway workshops, but including construction and maintenance of permanent way and works. ‡ Including horticultural, viticultural and gardening. § Excluding railway and tramway employees and labourers employed on railway and tramway construction and maintenance. || Including 1487 unclassified applications, distributed over Groups VII, IX and XIV.

It may be seen that the applications for employment were greater than the positions open in each industrial group, with the exception of Group XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). The over-supply of labour was most marked in Groups II. (Engineering, etc.), VII. (Building), IX. (Rail and Tram Services), and XIV. (General Labour and Miscellaneous).

In the Agricultural Group the demand for labour was greater than the supply in Victoria only, while in Group XII. (Domestic, etc.), it was greater than the supply in Queensland and Western Australia. It should be observed, however, that there is considerable diversity in the scope of the work ordinarily carried out by the Bureaux in the various States, so that particulars as to the industrial groups are not directly comparable.

4. **Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females.**—Of the total number of registrations for employment for the second quarter of 1913, 25,169, or 96.1 per cent. were males and 958, or 3.9 per cent. females, as against 96.4 per cent. and 3.6 per cent. respectively for the January to March quarter. Of the 958 female applicants for employment 937 were registered in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.), and of these 851 were registered in Western Australia and 86 in Queensland.

Regarding applications from employers, 8359, or 84.1 per cent. were for male, and 1242, or 12.9 per cent. for female employees, compared with 84.8 per cent. and 15.2 per cent. respectively for the previous quarter. Of the applications for female labour 1223 were in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.), 130 in Queensland and 1093 in Western Australia.

During the second quarter of the year 31 per cent. of the male and 57 per cent. of the female applicants obtained positions, while during the first quarter the percentages were 37 for males and 88 for females.

The following table gives particulars for male and female workers separately, of the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled:—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females, April to June, 1913.**

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
Males .. ..	3,393	21,776	25,169	241	8,118	8,359	7,801
Females .. ..	7	951	958	241	1,001	1,242	545
TOTAL .. ..	3,400	22,727	26,127	482	9,119	9,601	8,346

## SECTION XI.—INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

1. **Scope of Investigation.**—The various districts from which returns of industrial accidents were received during the second quarter of 1913 are the same as those from which similar information was furnished in the first quarter of the year. These districts are tabulated on page 48 of Labour Bulletin No. 1, and need not be re-capitulated.

2. **Number of Accidents Reported in each State during Second Quarter, 1913.**—The following table shews the number of fatal accidents and of accidents causing incapacitation for work for over 14 days in each State under the Acts referred to in Labour Bulletin No. 1. The total figures for the first quarter of the year are also shewn in the table:—

### Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in each State during Second Quarter, 1913

Particulars.	N.S.W	Vic.	Q'land	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wealth.	
							2nd. Quar-ter.	1st. Quar-ter.
No. of Fatal Accidents	19	4	10	1	7	1	42	52
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days .. .. .	799	42	36	35	171	19	1,102	1,087

It will be seen that there were fewer fatal accidents in the second quarter of 1913 than in the first quarter, the figures for the two quarters being 42 and 52 respectively, while the total numbers of non-fatal accidents are very nearly the same in both quarters, viz., 1087 in the first, and 1102 in the second quarter, a difference of slightly over 1 per cent. The total number of fatal accidents during the six months ended the 30th June, 1913, was 94, and of non-fatal, 2189.

3. **Number of Accidents Reported in each Industrial Group during Second Quarter, 1913.**—The following table gives similar particulars as to accidents in various industrial groups:—

### Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in various Industrial Groups during Second Quarter, 1913.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incap'itated for over 14 days.	Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incap'itated for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	5	61	VI. Other Manufactures	3	24
II. Engineering, etc. . .	2	49	VII. Building and Scaffolding .. .. .	1	7
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	1	25	VIII. Mining .. .. .	29	889
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc. . .	..	11	IX. Lifts .. .. .	1	2
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	34			
			TOTAL .. .. .	42	1,102



The largest number of accidents occurred, as in the preceding quarter, in the mining industry, and included 69 per cent. of the fatal and nearly 81 per cent. of the non-fatal accidents. Of the 29 fatal accidents in that industry 16 (as against 17 in the previous quarter) occurred in New South Wales, three (as against nine) in Queensland, seven (as against nine) in Western Australia, two (as against two) in Victoria, and one (as against none) in Tasmania, while of the 889 non-fatal accidents 660 (as against 649 in the previous quarter) occurred in New South Wales, 166 (as against 132) in Western Australia, 25 (as against 24) in Victoria, 22 (as against 27) in Queensland, 13 (as against 15) in Tasmania, and three (as against two) in South Australia.

## SECTION XII.—WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN AUSTRALIA.

1. **Introduction.**—In each of the States, except Victoria, Acts have been passed providing for a scheme of workmen's compensation, based on the British law relating to that subject, while similar provision has recently been made by the Commonwealth Parliament, firstly in regard to seamen, and, secondly, to workmen employed in the service of the Commonwealth. In Victoria a Workmen's Compensation Bill is now under the consideration of the State Parliament.

2. **General Features of Act.**—Broadly speaking, the Acts provide for payment by an employer to a worker of compensation for personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment, the employer being expressly exempted from liability, however, in respect of injuries which do not disable the worker for a minimum period and also in respect of injuries attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of the worker. The minimum and maximum amounts of compensation in respect of death and disablement are specified, separate rates being provided in case of disablement of minors. In Western Australia and Tasmania, rates of compensation for specific injuries are scheduled. Provision is made for the hearing of actions for the recovery of compensation.

(i.) *Injury, etc., to which Acts apply*—As regards accidents, the law in each State, as well as under the Commonwealth Acts, relates to injuries arising out of and in the course of the employment, but in Queensland and Tasmania injuries received while going to or from the place of work are expressly excluded. South Australia is the only State in which the provisions of the Act have been extended to cover disablement or death from certain specified industrial diseases,\* due to the nature of any employment, and it is provided that in the

\* These diseases are specified in a schedule to the Act and are as follows: Anthrax, Lead poisoning or its *sequelæ*, Mercury poisoning or its *sequelæ*, Phosphorus poisoning or its *sequelæ*, Arsenic poisoning or its *sequelæ*, and Ankylostomiasis.

case of workmen contracting certain diseases while engaged in specified processes the disease is deemed to be due to the nature of the employment unless the contrary be certified.

(ii.) *Misconduct or Negligence of the Worker.*—Under the Commonwealth Acts serious and wilful misconduct disqualifies for compensation unless the injury results in death or serious and permanent disablement, but in each of the State Acts such misconduct entirely exonerates the employer from liability. In Tasmania, insobriety, serious or wilful negligence or breach of rules also expressly disqualify the worker for compensation.

(iii.) *Claims for Compensation.*—A claim for compensation for disablement must be made within six months of the date of injury, except in Queensland, where it must be made within two months, but in case of death, a claim must be made within six months of the date of death, except in the Commonwealth Acts, where the period is specified as six months after news of the death has been received by the claimant, except in the case of a ship lost with all hands, when the limit is extended to eighteen months after the ship has been last heard of. As regards legal proceedings for the enforcement of a claim, a time limit is prescribed in Queensland only, where it is provided that such proceedings must be commenced not less than 28 days nor more than three months after the claim has been made.

(iv.) *Contracting Out and Substituted Schemes.*—In all the State Acts "contracting out" of liability under the Acts is expressly prohibited, though a scheme of compensation, without contribution by the workers, may be adopted, provided that the scale of compensation is not less favourable to the workers and their dependants than the corresponding scales contained in the respective Acts. Such a scheme cannot, however, be made compulsory for the workers, and must be approved by a Government official, who may give a certificate approving such a scheme to expire at the end of a period of not less than five years. In South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, a scheme may be adopted which affords additional benefits to workers in return for contributions from them, but such a scheme must be approved by the majority of workers, as well as by a Government official, and only under such circumstances is any deduction from wages allowable. Workers over 60 years of age and infirm workers may, under the State Acts, make agreements with their employers for reduced rates of compensation.

(v.) *Principal and Sub-Contractor.*—In cases where work is carried on by contract, the principal is liable, as well as the contractor, and either party can be proceeded against for compensation. The principal is, however, entitled to be indemnified by the contractor. Under the Commonwealth Workmen's Compensation Act, 1912, where the contract between the Commonwealth and the contractor so provides, the contractor is liable for compensation. The Crown, as well as municipal, local and other public authorities have the same liability for accidents as ordinary employers.

## CONSPECTUS OF WORKMEN'S

HEADING.	NEW SOUTH WALES.	QUEENSLAND.	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
<i>Name of Act</i>	Workmen's Compensation Act, 1910.	The Workers' Compensation Act of 1905. The Workers' Compensation Act Amendment Act of 1909.	The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1911.
<i>Definition of Employer</i>	A person who habitually employs at least four persons, and includes companies, corporations, etc.	Includes persons, firms, companies and corporations employing workers.	Includes any body of persons, corporate or unincorporate.
<i>Nature of Work to which Act applies</i>	Manual labour in railway, tramway, factory, mine, quarry, wharf, vessel, engineering, or building work, and proclaimed dangerous employment.	Industrial, commercial, manufacturing, building, agricultural, horticultural, pastoral, mining, quarrying, engineering, or hazardous work.	Manual only.
<i>Workers expressly excluded</i>	Casuals. Miners coming under the provisions of the Miners' Accident Relief Act.		Persons earning over £5 per week—Outworkers, members of employers' family, seamen whose injury occurs outside jurisdiction, agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, dairying or pastoral workers where machinery is not used, clerks, domestic servants.
<i>Employer not liable to pay compensation for</i>	Injury disabling for less than two weeks.	Injury incapacitating for less than 3 days.	First week of injury, if disabled for less than 2 weeks.
<i>In event of insolvency, maximum amount of compensation admitted as first charge on assets per individual</i>	Full amount.	Full amount.	£150.
<i>Compensation in case of Death.</i> If dependants left ..	3 years' earnings, or £200, whichever larger; maximum £400.	Same as N.S.W.	3 years' earnings, or £200, whichever larger; maximum £300.
If no dependants, maximum amount for medical attendance and funeral expenses	£12, if not payable by a Friendly Society.	£30, if not payable by a Lodge.	£20.
<i>Compensation in case of Incapacity—</i> Weekly payment			
Maximum total liability	Half average weekly earnings; maximum £1. £200.	Half average weekly earnings; maximum £1. £400.	Half average weekly earnings; maximum £1. £300.

## COMPENSATION ACTS IN AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.	TASMANIA.	COMMONWEALTH. (Employees).	COMMONWEALTH. (Seamen).
Workmens' Compensation Act, 1912.	The Workers' Compensation Act, 1910.	Commonwealth Workmen's Compensation Act, 1912.	Seamen's Compensation Act, 1911.
Same as S.A.	Same as S.A.	The Commonwealth.	Same as S.A.
Manual, clerical, or otherwise.	Manual in any railway, factory, mine, quarry or engineering work, or any other industry included by resolution of Parliament.	Manual, clerical, or otherwise.	Navigation or working of ships registered in Australia. Seamen shipped under Articles of Agreement in Australia while under Commonwealth law included.
Persons whose remuneration exceeds £300 a year, Casuals, police, outworkers, members of employer's family.	Casuals (defined as employed for not longer than 27 hours per week), manual workers earning over £156 a year.	Persons not employed in manual labour earning over £500 a year, Outworkers, Naval and Military Forces on active service.	Seamen on vessels ordinarily propelled by oars, and those in Naval or Military Service.
Same as S.A.	Same as S.A.		Same as S.A.
£150.	£100.		Full amount.
3 years' earnings, or £300, whichever larger; maximum £400.	3 years' earnings, or £100, whichever larger; maximum £200.	3 years' earnings, or £200, whichever larger; maximum £500.	3 years' earnings, or £200, whichever larger; maximum £500.
£100.	£30.	£30.	£30.
Half average weekly earnings; maximum £2. £400.	Half average weekly earnings; maximum 30s. £200.	Half average weekly earnings; maximum £2.	Half average weekly earnings; maximum 30s.

## CONSPECTUS OF WORKMEN'S

HEADING.	NEW SOUTH WALES.	QUEENSLAND.	SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
<i>Compensation to Workers over 60 years of age, who have entered into an agreement.</i>			
Death, with dependants—Minimum ..	£50.	£50.	£50.
Incapacity—Minimum weekly payment ..	5s.	5s.	5s.
Maximum total liability	£50.	£50.	£50.
<i>Compensation for infirm workers who have entered into an agreement.</i>			
Death, Minimum payment	£25 or 39 times average weekly earnings, whichever larger.	£25 or 39 times average weekly earnings, whichever larger.	£50.
Incapacity—Minimum weekly payment	5s. or quarter of weekly earnings, whichever larger.	5s. or quarter of weekly earnings, whichever larger.	5s.
Maximum total liability	£50.	£50.	£50.
<i>Compensation for workers under 21 years of age earning less than 20s. weekly.</i>			
Weekly payment ..	Average weekly earnings; maximum, 10s.	Same as N.S.W.	Same as N.S.W.
<i>Period after which lump sum can be substituted for weekly payment</i>	Six months.	Three months.	Six months.
<i>Tribunal, if claim not settled by agreement</i>	District Court, if claim over £30. Stipendiary or Police Magistrate, if £30 or less.	Police Magistrate.	Arbitrator. If arbitrator not agreed on within one month, special Magistrate.
<i>Regulations for worker leaving the State in which he was injured.</i>	(No provision.)	If permanent incapacity proved, 156 times weekly payments substituted for weekly payments in case of worker leaving Commonwealth.	If permanent incapacity likely, quarterly substituted for weekly payments in case of worker leaving State.

## COMPENSATION ACTS IN AUSTRALIA—Continued.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.	TASMANIA.	COMMONWEALTH. (Employees).	COMMONWEALTH. (Seamen).
£100. 10s. £100.	£50. 10s. after second week. £50.		(If seamen entitled to Commonwealth Old-age pension, amount of compensation and pension together not to exceed 30s. weekly).
£50. 10s. £100.	£25 or 39 times average weekly earnings, whichever larger. 5s. or quarter of weekly earnings, whichever larger. £50.		
Average weekly earnings. (No maximum.)	Same as N.S.W.	Same as N.S.W.	Same as N.S.W.
Six months.	Two weeks.	Six months.	Six months.
Local Court.	Commissioner (under Local Courts Act, 1896) acting as Arbitrator.	Arbitrator or County Court.	Arbitrator or County Court.
Weekly payments continue in case of worker leaving State.	Same as S.A.	If permanent incapacity likely, quarterly substituted for weekly payments in case of worker leaving Australia.	If permanent incapacity likely, quarterly substituted for weekly payments in case of worker leaving Australia.

(vi.) *Dependants*—The dependants entitled to compensation are defined in all the Acts—both Commonwealth and State—and include such members of the worker's family as were wholly or in part dependent on the earnings of the worker at the time of his death or who would, but for the incapacity due to the accident, have been so dependent. Members of the worker's family include generally the following:—Husband, wife, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, stepson, stepdaughter, father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, step-father, step-mother, half-brother, half-sister, and illegitimate child. In the New South Wales Act a half-brother or half-sister is omitted, while the Western Australian Act includes illegitimate brothers and sisters by the same father and mother. The Commonwealth Workmen's Compensation alone includes adopted child and mother-in-law.

In New South Wales a dependant must have been resident in the State at the date of death of the worker in order to have a right to compensation, while in Queensland a dependant must be resident in the Commonwealth or New Zealand. In the Acts in force in the other States and in the two Commonwealth Acts there are no restrictions specified as to residence of dependants.

(vii.) *Payment of Compensation*.—Compensation for injury is ordinarily paid from the date of the injury except in New South Wales, where no payment is made for the first two weeks of incapacity. In cases of death, where dependants are not wholly dependent on the deceased worker, only a proportionate part of the full compensation is paid, and in case of dispute as to the extent of injuries, a medical referee can be appointed. Refusal to submit to medical examination entails suspension of the right to compensation or to weekly payments, as the case may be, and compensation is forfeited during the period of refusal. The interval between medical examinations is usually prescribed by regulation, but is fixed at one month in New South Wales and Queensland. In Western Australia, if the worker does not submit to medical examination within one month, his right to compensation, as well as to any weekly payments, absolutely ceases. Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request of either employer or workman, and payment to a widow may be varied on account of her remarriage, drunkenness, neglect of children, misconduct, or other sufficient cause. In case of bankruptcy of the employer, any insurance is transferred to the worker, who also has a preferential claim on the estate for compensation. Money paid or payable in respect of compensation cannot be assigned, charged or taken in execution.

3. **Comparative Statement of Acts relating to Workmen's Compensation in Australia.**—The table on pages 134 to 137 shews the leading features of the Acts in force in each State and in the Commonwealth relating to the subject of workmen's compensation.



## SECTION XIII.—SPECIAL ARTICLES.

1. **Manufactories and Works in New South Wales, 1912.**—A preliminary statement of the operations of the manufactories and works in the State during 1912 has been issued. This shews that the number of establishments in operation during 1912 was 5159, shewing an increase of 120, or 2.4 per cent., during the year. Of that increase, 26 were in establishments working in metal works, machinery, etc., 23 in furniture, bedding, etc., 22 in wood, and 14 in establishments treating raw materials, etc. The other classes exhibited steady increases with the exception of those treating oils and fats, stone, clay, glass, food, and drink, and books, paper, printing, all of which shewed decreases.

The total number of persons employed was 115,547, including 88,220 males and 27,327 females. The increase in each group over 1911 was 6097 and 786 respectively, the total increase being 6883, or over 6 per cent. The females did not increase proportionately, the number in 1911 exceeding 1910 by 2214. The largest number of females was employed in the clothing and textile factories, where 19,221, or over 70 per cent., of the total were engaged.

The amount paid during the year in salaries and wages was £11,596,000, or £1,545,000 more than in 1911, the increase being more than 15 per cent. Of the total amount, males received £10,291,000, or an average of £116 13s. 1d. per employee, and females £1,305,000, or an average of £47 15s. The average for both classes together was £100 7s. 2d. per employee. The corresponding averages in 1911 were £108 12s. 10d. for males, £42 11s. 7d. for females, and £92 9s. 11d. for both together.

The value of plant and machinery used was £13,774,000, or £1,263,000 more than in 1911, the increased capital put into plant and machinery having been fairly general in all industries. The largest increases were shown in the classes—heat, light, and power, and metal works, machinery, etc., the plants of which were increased by £458,000 and £203,000 respectively. The land and buildings used in connection with the factories were valued at £8,842,000, or £716,000 more than in 1911.

On the whole the figures bear evidence that the State in 1912 passed through a prosperous year. Even in the two classes, viz., stone, clay, glass, etc., and books, paper, printing, etc., which showed appreciable decreases in the number of factories, the hands, salaries and wages, plant and machinery, showed increases.

The figures for 1912 in the principal classes, in comparison with 1911, are shewn in the following tabular statement:—

## Manufactories and Works in New South Wales, 1911 and 1912.

Class of Industry.	Year.	No. of Establishments.	Persons Employed.			Salaries and Wages.			Value of Land and Buildings	Value of Plant & Machinery.
			Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.		
						£	£	£	£,000	£,000
Treating Raw Materials, etc. ..	1911	272	3,803	87	3,890	322,857	3,361	326,218	266	350
	1912	286	3,743	74	3,817	306,214	2,440	308,654	251	353
Oils and Fats, etc.	1911	48	714	175	889	59,750	7,478	67,228	205	243
	1912	45	692	203	895	65,960	8,392	74,352	212	213
Stone, Clay, Glass etc. ..	1911	309	5,639	56	5,695	599,344	2,562	601,906	541	808
	1912	297	5,875	57	5,932	692,634	2,630	695,264	617	903
Working in Wood	1911	662	8,121	60	8,181	729,344	3,121	732,465	425	693
	1912	684	8,815	65	8,880	881,865	3,809	885,674	530	783
Metal Works, Machinery, etc. ..	1911	509	22,728	134	22,862	2,720,892	7,394	2,728,286	1,739	2895
	1912	535	25,352	193	25,545	3,291,724	10,682	3,302,406	1,882	3098
Food, Drink, etc.	1911	769	10,734	3,316	14,050	1,164,474	137,202	1,301,676	2,028	2,855
	1912	765	10,788	3,476	14,264	1,214,123	158,668	1,372,791	2,012	2,963
Clothing and Textile Fabrics, etc. ..	1911	981	7,696	18,808	26,504	822,186	811,323	1,633,509	396	485
	1912	992	7,804	19,221	27,025	868,809	933,755	1,802,564	434	499
Books, Paper, Printing, etc. ..	1911	436	6,821	2,313	9,134	775,975	92,893	868,868	412	985
	1912	426	7,051	2,390	9,441	887,284	106,160	993,444	434	1045
Musical Instruments	1911	12	352	35	387	42,343	1,412	43,755	27	11
	1912	14	376	40	416	47,440	1,992	49,432	27	14
Arms and Explosives ..	1911	5	27	6	33	1,823	148	1,971	3	1
	1912	6	198	10	208	26,638	465	27,103	61	91
Vehicles, Saddlery, etc. ..	1911	384	4,322	94	4,416	387,413	4,542	391,955	193	99
	1912	393	4,319	96	4,415	419,750	5,641	425,391	240	112
Ship and Boat Building ..	1911	41	2,428	1	2,429	305,856	76	305,932	579	388
	1912	47	3,168	1	3,169	426,955	90	427,045	668	496
Furniture, Bedding, etc. ..	1911	197	3,189	345	3,534	338,496	15,872	354,368	68	53
	1912	220	3,596	378	3,974	384,802	19,901	404,703	96	62
Drugs, Chemicals, etc. ..	1911	82	864	596	1,460	103,811	21,033	124,844	122	196
	1912	87	943	604	1,547	114,352	25,770	140,122	154	218
Surgical Instruments etc. ..	1911	12	75	21	96	7,194	1,008	8,202	..	4
	1912	13	79	18	97	7,722	1,242	8,964	..	5
Jewellery, etc. ..	1911	48	673	80	753	70,520	4,522	75,042	2	24
	1912	53	763	100	863	85,897	5,682	91,579	9	26
Heat, Light and Power ..	1911	191	2,771	64	2,835	371,548	2,498	374,046	1,062	2,345
	1912	203	3,374	53	3,427	451,564	2,680	454,244	1,134	2,802
Leatherware, N.E.I.	1911	20	387	74	461	33,815	2,974	36,789	22	13
	1912	24	408	87	495	41,208	4,014	45,222	0	11
Minor Wares, N.E.I.	1911	61	779	276	1,055	63,441	10,660	74,101	36	63
	1912	69	876	261	1,137	76,448	10,802	87,250	51	80
Total ..	1911	5,039	82,123	26,541	108,664	8,921,082	1,130,079	10,051,161	8,126	12,511
	1912	5,159	88,220	27,327	115,547	10,291,389	1,304,815	11,596,204	8,842	13,774

2. **Manufactories and Works in South Australia, 1912.**—The results of the annual investigations for the year 1912 regarding factories and works in South Australia have been completed, and summarised results for the last five years are given in the following table. The figures shew that the total number of establishments working during 1912 was 1341, as compared with 1314 in the preceding year. The number of hands employed was 28,500, an increase of 593 in 1911, and the total amount paid in salaries and wages was £2,869,965, compared with

£2,645,386 in 1911. The estimated value of land and buildings was £5,878,374, Class VI. (Foods, Drinks, etc.) having the maximum amount of capital invested (£1,295,499).

It will be observed that the proportion of the gross value of output paid in salaries and wages in 1912, compared with 1908, increased 2.98 per cent., while the proportion expended on raw materials decreased 2.37 per cent., and the margin for miscellaneous expenses and manufacturer's profit was increased by 0.15 per cent.

**Particulars of Manufactures and Works in the State of South Australia for the Years 1908 to 1912, and Comparisons between the Years 1911-12 and 1908-12.**

Particulars.	Unit of Quantity.	Years.					Increase or Decrease 1912 over 1911.	Increase or Decrease 1912 over 1908.		
		1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.				
No. of establishments	No.	1,237	1,265	1,278	1,314	1,341	+	27	+	104
No. using machinery	„	839	863	899	926	953	+	27	+	114
Hands employed—										
Males .. ..	„	19,640	20,753	21,864	22,651	23,085	+	434	+	3,445
Females .. ..	„	4,596	4,956	5,146	5,256	5,415	+	159	+	819
Total .. ..	„	24,236	25,709	27,010	27,907	28,500	+	593	+	4,264
Proportion <i>per cent.</i> of each sex employed										
Males .. ..	%	81.04	80.72	80.95	81.17	81.00	—	.17	—	.04
Females .. ..	„	18.96	19.28	19.05	18.83	19.00	+	.17	+	.04
Total power employed										
Full capacity ..	H.P.	25,987	29,215	32,604	41,504	45,629	+	4,125	+	19,642
Av'age actually used	„	19,172	24,607	26,855	30,080	33,048	+	2,968	+	13,876
Kinds of power and full capacity—										
Steam .. ..	„	18,461	19,644	20,751	28,115	29,230	+	1,115	+	10,769
Gas .. ..	„	3,401	4,584	5,918	6,525	7,287	+	762	+	3,886
Electric .. ..	„	2,195	2,839	3,570	4,582	6,483	+	1,901	+	4,288
Oil .. ..	„	1,736	1,954	2,171	2,086	2,387	+	301	+	651
Other .. ..	„	194	194	194	196	212	+	16	+	18
Wages & salaries paid	£	1,924,974	2,028,691	2,323,398	2,645,386	2,869,965	+	224,579	+	944,991
Value fuel and light used .. ..	„	309,466	269,646	313,731	332,805	363,403	+	30,598	+	53,937
Value material used	„	6,689,376	6,004,459	6,695,255	7,509,739	8,199,110	+	689,371	+	1,509,734
Gross value of output	„	10,471,671	9,928,105	11,184,695	12,416,381	13,438,218	+	1,021,837	+	2,966,547
Proportion <i>per cent.</i> to gross value of output of—										
Wages and salaries paid ..	%	18.38	20.43	20.77	21.31	21.36	+	0.05	+	2.98
Fuel, etc., used ..	„	2.96	2.72	2.81	2.68	2.70	—	0.02	—	0.26
Material used ..	„	63.88	60.48	59.86	60.48	61.01	+	0.53	—	2.87
Margin for profit and miscellaneous expenses, etc. ..	„	14.78	16.37	16.56	15.53	14.93	—	0.60	+	0.15
		100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	..	..	..	..
Average annual earnings per employee	£	83.67	83.08	90.44	99.56	105.60	+	6.05	+	21.93
Value machinery and plant .. ..	„	2,035,284	2,106,890	2,225,718	2,506,000	2,725,540	+	219,540	+	690,256
Value land and buildings .. ..	„	2,340,463	2,460,968	2,648,658	2,954,855	3,152,834	+	197,979	+	812,371
Value added to material by process of manufacture ..	„	3,782,295	3,923,646	4,489,440	4,906,642	5,239,108	+	332,466	+	1,456,813

### 3. Earnings and Hours of Workpeople in the United Kingdom.—

The eighth and last volume of a Report of an Inquiry by the Board of Trade into the Earnings and Hours of Labour of Workpeople in the United Kingdom in 1906 and 1907 has been issued. Each of the eight volumes is devoted to a separate group of industries, viz.:—I. (Textile), II. (Clothing), III. (Building and Woodworking), IV. (Public Utility), V. (Agriculture), VI. (Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding), VII. (Railway), and VIII. (Miscellaneous). The object of the enquiry was to ascertain the amount actually earned by all classes of workpeople of the United Kingdom in a selected week, industry by industry, occupation by occupation, and district by district, and to obtain means of estimating their annual earnings. In order to collect the data required, employers were requested to fill in schedules giving details of wages paid, hours worked, etc. The schedule used was divided into three tables, the particulars to be inserted in each part being as follows:—Table I.,—The total number of workpeople who were paid wages in the last pay-week of each month of the year, the total wages-bill for the same weeks, and the total wages paid for the whole year. Table II.—The net earnings of each class of worker in a selected week, separate particulars being asked for men of and above 20 years of age, lads and boys (under 20 years of age), women (of and above 18 years of age) and girls (under 18 years of age). Table III.—Particulars as to Hours of Labour, Holidays, Payment of Wages, Bonus and Pension schemes, Profit-sharing, Apprentices, etc. The total number of workpeople covered by this enquiry was over 3 millions, which is about three times the number covered by a similar investigation in 1886. The following table gives the number of workpeople included in each group and the average earnings for a full week (including all allowances in kind) for men, boys, women and girls separately, and for all workpeople together.

Average Weekly Earnings of Workpeople in the United Kingdom, 1906-7.

Industry.	No. of Workers Covered by Enquiry.	* Average Weekly Earnings of Operatives Working <i>Full Time</i> .									
		Men.		Boys.		Women		Girls.		All Work People.	
		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
I. Textile .. .. .	500,000	28	1	10	5	15	5	8	11	17	6
II. Clothing .. .. .	226,000	30	2	9	8	13	6	5	9	15	1
III. Building and Wood-working ..	180,000	32	0	9	6	12	11	6	10	26	7
IV. Public Utility .. .. .	268,000	27	0	12	0	..	..	..	..	26	3
V. Agriculture (1907) .. .. .	78,000	18	4	(England)							
		18	0	(Wales)							
		19	7	(Scotland)							
		11	3	(Ireland)							
VI. Metal, Engineering and Ship- building .. .. .	744,000	32	3	10	7	12	2	7	2	27	5
VII. Railway Service (1907) ..	400,000	26	8	11	11	(Steam)					
	7,000	30	1	13	0	(Electric)				25	1
VIII. Paper, Printing, Pottery, Brick, Glass, Food, Drink, Tobacco, and Miscellaneous .. .. .	558,000	28	9	10	1	11	10	6	7	21	4

\* Including allowances in kind, such as board, housing, etc.

The average weighted weekly earnings for all groups (exclusive of agriculture) for operatives working full time, calculated from the number of workers covered by the report, and their average earnings is 23s. 1d. The average earnings of workpeople in Australia in factories only in 1911 were 34s. 4d. per week.

Particulars of average annual earnings are also given in the Report. It is pointed out, however, that especially in those trades in which some amount of casual labour is employed and in which accordingly the same workman may appear in more than one return and so be counted more than once in the number of persons employed, it is possible that the average annual earnings as computed may differ more or less materially from the average earnings which would result if the actual earnings of each individual for the whole year were available. Moreover, no allowance is made for workpeople who were *totally* unemployed, either from sickness or lack of work in any or all of the twelve weeks for which particulars were obtained.

Subject to these qualifications the average annual earnings (to the nearest 10s.) in each of the main eight groups are shewn in the following table. Particulars are also given of the hours of labour constituting a full ordinary week, exclusive of mealtimes and overtime, in each of the eight industrial groups:—

**Average Annual Earnings and Hours of Labour of Workpeople in United Kingdom, 1906-7.**

Particulars.	I. Tex- tiles.	II. Cloth- ing.	III. Build- ing.	IV. Public Utility.	V. Agri- culture	VI. Metals.	VII. Rail- ways.	VIII. Miscel- laneous.
Annual Earn- ings* ..	£43 10s.	£37	£65	£67 10s.	£47	£68 10s.	£65	£55 10s.
Hours of Lab- our per week	55.3	52.7	52.1	54.7	..	53.2	58.0	53.6

\* To the nearest 10 shillings.

Detailed tables for each industry included in the eight main groups are given in the Report.

**4. Creation of Federal Department of Labour in the United States of America.**—Under the provisions of an Act approved on the 4th March last the United States Bureau of Labour, which had previously been organised as a branch of the Department of Commerce and Labour, was constituted as a separate department, with a secretary, assistant secretary and staff. In section 1 of the Act the purpose of the new department is stated to be "to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage-earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment."

The three main divisions of the new department are the Bureaux of Labour Statistics, Immigration and Naturalisation, each of which is placed by the Act under the immediate control of a commissioner. All the powers and duties previously possessed by the Commissioner of Labour are expressly retained, and are to be exercised by the Com-

missioner of Labour Statistics, upon which officer the administration of the Federal Workmen's Compensation Acts is also imposed.

Under the Act it is provided that the Bureau of Labour Statistics, under the direction of the Secretary for Labour, "shall collect, collate under the direction of the Secretary of Labour, "shall collect, collate and report, at least once each year, or more often if necessary, full and complete statistics of the conditions of labour and the products and distribution of the products of the same," and to this end the secretary is empowered to employ any of the bureaux provided for his department and to call upon other departments for statistical data and results obtained by them. It may be seen that while the definition of the functions of the bureau is brief, its terms are very wide and may include not only practically all subjects connected with labour, in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word, but also the production and distribution of wealth in all its phases, as well as matters touching the material, social, intellectual, and moral welfare of the workers.

Another important provision of the Act is that by which power is conferred on the Secretary for Labour to act as mediator and to appoint commissioners of conciliation in labour disputes "whenever in his judgment the interests of industrial peace may require it to be done." The secretary is, moreover, enjoined to investigate and report to Congress a plan of co-ordination of the activities, duties and powers of his office with those of the existing bureaux, commissions, and departments, so far as they relate to labour and its conditions in order to harmonise and unify such activities, duties, and powers.

With reference to the reorganisation of the United States Bureau it is of interest to observe that in England also developments have recently taken place in regard to labour statistics, the Labour Department of the Board of Trade being now divided into two sections, viz.:—The Department of Labour Statistics and the Department of Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance.

**5. The Initiation of Wages Boards Systems in the United States of America.**—In the United States of America an interesting and important development has recently taken place in the adoption by three of the States (Massachusetts, Oregon, and Washington) of modified and limited systems of wages boards, and it is understood that certain of the other State Legislatures contemplate the introduction of similar legislation at an early date. The Acts which have been introduced in these three States do not, however, apply to male workers, their primary object being to abolish "sweating" conditions in the employment of women and young persons. In two of the States (Oregon and Washington) the adoption of a minimum wage is made compulsory, but in Massachusetts reliance is placed on the novel principle of "publicity and moral suasion" to ensure fair wages and proper working conditions.

(i.) *Massachusetts.*—The Act passed in this State applies only to women, learners, apprentices, and minors under the age of 18 years. A Minimum Wage Commission is constituted under the Act with power to establish a Wages Board for any industry in which, as the result of enquiry, it appears that the wages received by women are insufficient to supply the necessary cost of living and to support them in health. Each Wages Board is to consist of not less than six representatives of



employers and employees each, and one or more disinterested persons appointed by the Commission to represent the public, but the number of the last-named must not exceed one-half that of the representatives of either of the other parties. The chairman is appointed by the Commission from among the representatives of the public. The duty of a Wages Board is to determine the minimum wage, suitable for a female employee of ordinary ability in the occupation in question, and for learners, apprentices and minors under 18 years of age. The Board is required to report its minimum wage determinations to the Commission, together with the names of employers who pay less than the minimum so determined. The Commission then gives a public hearing to employers paying such lower rates, and, if it approve of the determination of the Board, it must file a decree and note thereon the names of those employers who fail or refuse to observe the rates determined. Within 14 days the Commission must publish the names of such employers in at least four newspapers in each county of the State, together with the material part of its findings and the minimum rates paid by every such employer. Any Wages Board may be reconvened or a new Board established by the Commission, upon petition of either employers or employees. Any newspaper refusing or neglecting to publish the findings, etc., of the Commission at its regular rates is liable to a fine of not less than £20 for each offence. Any employer, who files a declaration under oath that compliance with the decree of the Commission will endanger the prosperity of his business may procure exemption from the execution of such decree. This Act may be described as an Act to enforce a minimum wage for women and minors by means of "moral suasion," as there is no provision for compulsion. It relies on the effect of publicity to bring about the abolition of sweating conditions.

(ii.) *Oregon*.—The Act passed in this State applies similarly only to women and persons under the age of 18, and prohibits their employment in any occupation for unreasonably long hours, under conditions detrimental to health or morals or for wages which, in the case of minors are unreasonably low or, in the case of women, are inadequate to meet the necessary cost of living and to maintain health. An "Industrial Welfare Commission" is created, composed of three commissioners, appointed by the Governor. One commissioner represents the interests of the employers, and one those of the employees, while the third is to be impartial and to safeguard the interests of the public as a whole. The Commission is authorised to declare standards of hours of employment, conditions of labour and minimum rates of wages for women and minors. It also has authority to inspect and examine pay-rolls and books, to require full statements of wages paid, hours worked and conditions of labour, and to compel the attendance of any witness. If the Commission, after investigation, is of opinion that any substantial number of women are working for unreasonably long hours, or under conditions detrimental to health or morals or are receiving inadequate wages, it may convene a conference to report on the matter. This conference is composed of three representatives of employers, three of employees, three disinterested persons and one or more commissioners. The duties of the conference are, to consider the information and evidence already obtained and hear any witnesses, and to report its recommendations as to wages, hours, etc., to the Commission. The Commission will then hold a public meeting, at which all persons in favour of or opposed to such



recommendations will be given a hearing, and may make an order requiring all employers concerned, within 60 days, to comply with the recommendations of the conference, under penalty of fines or imprisonment or both. Any employer victimising employees who give evidence may be fined.

(iii.) *Washington*.—Details of the Minimum Wage Act in this State are not yet to hand, but it is stated to be substantially identical with that of the State of Oregon.

**6. Prices and Cost of Living in Canada, 1912.**—A special report on the course of prices and cost of living in Canada during 1912 was issued in March by the Department of Labour. This Report is of a comprehensive nature and extends to no fewer than 255 pages. It deals mainly with wholesale prices, but particulars are also given as to retail prices and house rents for the three years, 1910 to 1912 inclusive. Information regarding wholesale prices in other countries and as to the relation between prices and gold production is also furnished in appendices to the Report.

The opening paragraph of the Report is as follows:—"High as was the general level reached in 1911 by wholesale prices in Canada—the highest probably within the present generation—a still further and pronounced advance took place during 1912." In the terms of the Department's index-number, which is based on weekly or monthly wholesale quotations for 272 commodities selected over the whole field of production and consumption, a level indicated by 1274 in 1911 had risen to one of 1344 in 1912 (an increase of 5.5 per cent.), but a computation which assigns to the various groups of commodities their approximate relative "weight" shews the rise to have been from 1311 in 1911 to 1439 in 1912 (an increase of 9.8 per cent.).\* The high level which prices have attained may be gathered from the statement that a simple average of the prices of the articles comprised in the investigation shews the general level to be approximately 46 per cent. higher in 1912 than in 1897, while the "weighted" average gives an increase of nearly 60 per cent. Conditions specially noteworthy in Canada, though not in general peculiar to that country, which are regarded as factors in the pronounced rise in 1912, are:—(a) The comparative world crop failure of 1911 which raised the price of farm and food products; (b) the exceptionally severe winter of 1911-12, which intensified the effect of (a), and (c) the industrial and trade expansion which set in as the year advanced.

As regards cost of living, a typical weekly expenditure (for a family of five), including food, fuel and lighting, and rent, increased from 49s. in 1910 to 51s. 7d. in 1911 and 54s. 7d. in 1912. These amounts computed as index-numbers, with the year 1911 as base, are 949 in 1910, 1000 in 1911, and 1058 in 1912. The corresponding Commonwealth index-numbers are 970, 1000 and 1101 respectively, shewing that the increase from 1910 to 1911 was greater in Canada than in Australia, but that the rise in 1912 was nearly twice as great in the latter as in the former country.

\* The corresponding wholesale price index-numbers for Australia were 1000 in 1911, and 1172 in 1912 an increase of 17.2 per cent. It may be pointed out that the difference in the Canadian "weighted" and "unweighted" index-numbers confirms the necessity, if accuracy is to be attained, for the general adoption in other countries of a proper system of "weights" and a careful method of technique, similar to those which are applied in the computation of the Commonwealth index-numbers. (See Report No. 1.—"Prices, Price-Indexes and Cost of Living in Australia, 1890 to 1912."—Labour and Industrial Branch).

## SECTION XIV.—REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUX IN AUSTRALIA.

*(In this Section it is proposed to furnish particulars of Reports received each quarter from Departments and Bureaux in the Commonwealth specially affecting labour and industrial matters).*

### A.—COMMONWEALTH.

1. Return for 1912 of Immigrants under the Immigration Restriction Act, 1901-1910. (Melbourne, Government Printer.)
2. Return for 1912 of Contract Immigrants under the Contract Immigrants Act, 1905. (Melbourne, Government Printer.)

### B.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. **New South Wales Industrial Gazette, April, May, and June, 1913.** (Sydney, Government Printer.) In addition to the usual records of proceedings, &c., the April issue contains a special article entitled, "Observations upon the English Law of Workmen's Compensation and National Insurance, and upon the local law of Employers' Liability and Workmen's Compensation." In the same number a monthly record of strikes and lock-outs appears for the first time, and tables are given of industrial dislocations in New South Wales from the 1st July, 1907, to the 17th April, 1912, and from the commencement of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912 (18th April, 1912), to 31st March, 1913. The particulars given for the former period are, however, stated to be incomplete. The total number of disputes during the latter period was 102, affecting approximately 11,000 employees and 70 employers or mines. The issue for May contains a "Review and Synopsis of the Industrial Board Systems of 1908 and 1912," together with a "Republication in consolidated form of all Board Constitutions to date." Records of Accidents in Factories are included for the first time, particulars being furnished for the period from 18th April, 1912, to 31st March, 1913.

The Gazette for June continues the review of the Industrial Board Systems, and contains in respect thereto an article under the title of "A Computation and Analysis of the Cost of Industrial Board Systems," several elaborate schedules being furnished as appendices. Two series of strike prosecutions are recorded, and there is also an important section of the issue devoted to the republication, for public information, of the consolidated regulations lately issued under the Factories and Shops Act, 1912.

2. **Manufactories and Works, 1912.** Preliminary statement by the Government Statistician

### C.—VICTORIA.

1. **The Law relating to Factories and Shops in Victoria.** (Melbourne, Government Printer.) This work, compiled by Mr. H. M. Murphy, Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops in Victoria, contains all the existing State Factory and Shop Laws and Regulations in force in Victoria, together with the principal decided cases, cross references, and explanatory notes.

## SECTION XV.—IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*(In this Section it is intended to include brief reviews of the more important Reports specially affecting labour received each quarter from other countries.)*

### A.—UNITED KINGDOM.

1. Report of an Inquiry by the Board of Trade into the Earnings and Hours of Labour of Workpeople of the United Kingdom in 1906. Part VIII.—Paper, Printing, Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, Food, Drink, Tobacco, and Miscellaneous Trades. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.)

2. Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the Year ending 31st December, 1911. Part C.—Trade Unions. London, T. Fisher Unwin.) Particulars are given as to membership, income, expenditure, and funds of 680 registered Trade Unions, having 2,378,957 members, and of 65 registered Employers' Associations and Trade Protection Societies, having 17,783 members. It is believed that only about one-half of all the trade unions are registered, but it has been estimated that the membership of Registered Unions represents about 80 per cent. of the total membership. The number of Employers' Associations registered represents a quite inconsiderable proportion of the Associations in existence, and in general they do not include the most important of such bodies. Under the Trade Union Act of 1871 every registered union is required to furnish to the Registrar an annual statement showing assets and liabilities, receipts and details of expenditure.

3. Board of Trade Labour Gazette, February, March, April, May, 1913. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.) In addition to the usual monthly statistics, the February number contains a summary of the operations of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges in 1912, while the March number includes special reports on Co-operative, Agricultural, and other Societies in the United Kingdom in 1911, and on Agricultural Co-operative Banks in Germany.

The number of Board of Trade Labour Exchanges open at the end of 1912 was 414, of which 153 were established during the year. About 2,451,000 applications for work were received, the number of vacancies notified being 1,020,000, and of vacancies filled 785,000. In addition 267,000 jobs of a casual nature were found for applicants. In 1911 there were 768 registered societies engaged in agricultural distribution and production, the value of their total sales amounting to £4,526,884, upon which a profit of £62,373 was made. These societies employed 2748 persons, and paid £126,186 in wages during the year.

4. Public Finance. The Central Government Sources of Revenue. London, Municipal Society.)

5. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, March, 1913. (London.) Sauerbeck's Prices of Commodities in 1912 and Index Number. The price level for 1912 shows an increase of  $6\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. above that for the preceding year.

6. The World's Labour Laws, February, 1913. (London, The International Association for Labour Legislation.)

## B.—CANADA.

1. **The Labour Gazette, March, April, May, 1913.** (Ottawa, Government Printing Bureau.)

2. **Board of Trade News, December, 1912.** (Toronto, T. H. Best Printing Company Limited.) This publication contains a report by a Committee appointed to investigate the causes for the High Cost of Living in Toronto. The three principal causes given in the Report are:—(i.) The great increase in the production of gold; (ii.) the enormous sums expended in preparations for war; and (iii.) the migration citywards, which is alleged to have taken place nearly all over the civilised world.

3. **Wholesale Prices, Canada, 1912.** (Ottawa, Government Printing Bureau.) Report by R. H. Coats, Editor of the Labour Gazette.

## C.—NEW ZEALAND.

1. **Awards, Agreements, and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, Vol. XIV., Parts I., II., and III.** Awards Nos. 2719 to 2748. Vol. XIII., Appendix and Index. (Wellington, Government Printer.)

2. **Journal of the Department of Labour.** Nos. 241 to 244. (Wellington, Government Printer.)

3. **Report of the Department of Labour, 1912.** Appendix. (Wellington, Government Printer.) Wage Statistics. An entirely new scheme for the collection of returns from factories has been adopted, and in this Appendix detailed particulars are given as to the following matters:—(i.) The actual number of persons employed in each trade; (ii.) their average duration of employment; (iii.) their average weekly rate of wages for a normal week; (iv.) their average weekly earnings during the period of employment; and (v.) their average weekly earnings in each trade throughout the year. While the tables contain a large amount of valuable information in details, it is to be regretted that no general results are furnished in summary form.

4. **Conference of Trade Unions at Wellington, N.Z.** (Wellington, Works Printery.)

## D.—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

1. **American Statistical Association, March, 1913.** (Boston.) The Need of Social Statistics as an Aid to the Courts. A Measure of the Manner of Living.

2. **Care of Tuberculous Wage Earners in Germany.** Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labour, Whole No. 101. (Washington, Government Printing Office.) This is the first publication of a series of articles on Workmen's Insurance and Compensation.

3. **Wages of Farm Labour.** Bulletin No. 99 of the Statistical Bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture. (Washington, Government Printing Office.) This is the nineteenth investigation into the Wages of Farm Labour in the United States, continuing a series that began in 1866.

4. **Indiana. Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Statistics for 1911 and 1912.** (Indianapolis, W. B. Burford.) Free Employment Bureau. Social, Economic, and Agricultural Statistics. Industrial matters (describing the agricultural opportunities in the State and in the Counties).

5. **Massachusetts. Statistics of Manufactures. Twenty-sixth Annual Report for 1911.** Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Company.) This Report furnishes valuable and complete information not only in regard to general statistics of manufacturing industries, but also as to classified rates of wages and average annual earnings. The number of wage earners in 1911 was 584,033, the average annual earnings £106, and the average output per head £503.

6. **Massachusetts. Twentieth Quarterly Report on the State of Employment, 31st December, 1912.** (Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Company.)

7. Massachusetts. Twelfth Annual Directory of Labour Organisations in Massachusetts, 1913. (Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Company.)

8. Massachusetts. Collective Agreement between Employers and Labour Organisations, 1911. (Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Company.) Of the 1282 local Trade Unions in Massachusetts, with 191,038 members, 530, with 105,478 members, have signed agreements with one or more employers.

9. New York. Twelfth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, 1912. (Albany, State Department of Labour.) General review of the work of the New York Department of Labour for the twelve months ended 30th Sept., 1912.

10. New York. Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1911. Bureau of Labour Statistics, Part II. (Albany, State Department of Labour.) Economic Condition of Organised Labour. The State of employment. Wages and Earnings. Hours of Labour and Labour Organisations in 1911.

11. New York. Department of Labour. (Albany, State Department of Labour.) Annual Reports on Factory Inspection, Mercantile Inspection, and Mediation and Arbitration.

12. New York. Bulletin of the Department of Labour, March, 1913. (Albany, J. B. Lyon Co.) The percentage of unemployment for the six months July-December, 1912, was 14.8, of which 12.2 was due to causes other than Disputes and Disability (sickness, accident, and old age). The Number of New Disputes during the last quarter of 1912 was 22, affecting 129,324 employees, the strike of garment workers in New York alone affecting 116,000. Over 21,100 Industrial Accidents were reported during the three months November, 1912, to January, 1913, and of that number 145 were fatal.

13. Ohio. Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the Quarter ending 31st March, 1913. Statistics of Free Public Employment Offices in five towns.

14. Utah. First Report of the State Bureau of Immigration, Labour and Statistics for the years 1911-1912. (Salt Lake, The Arrow Press.) General statistical review of the State, including rates of wages in Salt Lake City and Ogden.

15. Virginia. Fifteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics, 1912. (Richmond, Davis Bottom.) Statistics of Manufactures, with rates of wages. Accidents. Laws affecting Labour.

#### E.—FRANCE.

1. Bulletin of the Labour Department, February, March, April, 1913. (Paris, Berger-Levrant.) In addition to the usual statistical tables and reports, the February number contains special articles on Unemployment in France in 1912, Free Labour Exchanges in 1912, Inquiry into Agricultural Wages, Communal Subventions to Unemployment Funds in 1910 to 1912 (conclusion), and on the Laws and Projects on Social Legislation in Europe in 1912. In the March number Statistics are given of industrial accidents in France in 1911, and of industrial disputes in 1910 and 1911. The April number contains articles on Strikes in relation to Conciliation and Arbitration in 1911, Statistics of relief works in 1911, Shipping Accidents in 1909 and 1910, and on Collective Agreements in France and abroad.

2. Journal of the Statistical Society of Paris, April-May, 1913. (Paris, Berger-Levrant.)

3. Observation and Stability of Prices. (Paris, Berger-Levrant.) Reprint of a paper by Lucien March, communicated to the Statistical Society of Paris.

4. Quarterly Journal of the International Association on Unemployment. Vol. II., No. 4, and Vol. III., No. 1. (Paris, Published by the Association.) Vol. II. No. 4, contains a Report on the third session of the International Committee, held at Zürich in September, 1912. Vol. III., No. 1, is devoted to articles on Assistance to the Unemployed.

5. **Bulletin of Social Insurance**, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 1913. (Paris, published by the International Permanent Committee on Social Insurance.) No. 1 contains a Report on the third International Conference on Social Insurance held at Zürich in September, 1912; No. 2, Miscellaneous Articles and Bibliography; and No. 3, articles on Life Insurance and Minor Accidents.
6. **Bulletin of General Statistics**, April, 1913. (Paris, F. Alcan.)
7. **Statistics of Strikes and Recourse to Conciliation and Arbitration in 1911**. (Paris, National Printing Office.)
8. **Inquiry into Home-workers in the Artificial Flower Industry**. (Paris, National Printing Office.)

## F.—GERMANY.

1. **Journal of the Labour Department**, March, April, May, 1913. (Berlin, C. Heymann.) The May number contains special articles on Industrial Disputes and on Building Activity in 1912.
2. **Unions of Employers, Employees and Workers in 1911. Sixth Supplement to the Journal of the Labour Department**. (Berlin, C. Heymann.) Statistics of Associations of Employers and Employees and of Trade Unions.
3. **Quarterly Journal of Statistics of the German Empire. Part I**, 1913. (Berlin, Puttkammer and Mühlbrecht.)
4. **Strikes and Lock-outs in 1912**. (Berlin, Puttkammer and Mühlbrecht.)
5. **Journal of the Statistical Bureau of Bavaria**, No. 2, 1913. (Münich, J. Lindau.)
6. **The Central Statistical News of Germany**, March-April, 1913. (Liepzig, B. G. Teubner.)
7. **Insurance Journal**, March, 1913. (Berlin, E. S. Mittler and Son.) Insurance against Industrial Disease in Germany and other countries. Extension of the Imperial Insurance for invalidity and dependants. Insurance against unemployment caused by fires.
8. **Monthly Journal of Workmen's Insurance**, February, March, April, 1913. (Berlin, Behrend and Co.)
9. **Social Culture**, March, April, May, 1913. (M. Gladbach, Volksvereinsverlag.)

## G.—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

1. **Social Review (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department)** February, March, April, 1913. (Vienna, A. Hölder.) The February number contains a review of the Australian Maternity Allowance Act, 1912, and in the March number prominence is given to the Austrian Law on Accident and Sickness Insurance for Sailors and on Accident Insurance for Miners.

## H.—ITALY.

1. **Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, January, February, March, 1913. (Rome.) The March number contains a review of Retail Prices in 1912.
2. **Semi-monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, Nos. 2 to 6, 1913. (Rome.)
3. **Statistics of Strikes in Italy in 1911**. (Rome, G. Bertero and Co.)

## I.—BELGIUM.

1. **Journal of the Labour Department**, Nos. 4 to 8, 1913. (Brussels E. Daem.) No. 4 contains an article on Trade Unions in 1912, and No. 8 a review of the Industrial Peace Act in Queensland.
2. **Report on the Working of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1903, from 1909 to 1911**. (Brussels, M. Weissenbruch.)



## J.—HOLLAND.

1. **Monthly Journal of the Central Bureau of Statistics**, February, March, April, 1913. (La Hague, Gebr. Belinfante.)

## K.—FINLAND.

1. **Labour Statistics**, Vols. I. to XV. (Helsingfors, Government Printer.)
2. **Journal of Labour Statistics**, Nos. 1 to 5, 1912, Nos. 1 and 2, 1913. (Helsingfors, Government Printer.)

## L.—PORTUGAL.

1. **Bulletin of Industrial Labour**, Nos. 3 to 18, 34 to 46, 48 to 72, and 74 to 80. (Lisbon, National Printery.)

## M.—SWEDEN.

1. **Social Review (Journal of the Swedish Labour Department)**, Nos. 2, 3, and 4, 1913. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt and Sons.) No. 3 contains articles on Industrial Disputes in 1912, a review of the Maternity Bonus in Australia, and Index Numbers of the Cost of Living in Stockholm from 1904 to 1912.
2. **Collective Agreements in Sweden**, 1911. (Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt and Sons.)
3. **Industrial Accidents in 1909**. (Stockholm, K. L. Beckman.)
4. **Economic Journal**, Nos. 3 and 4, 1913. (Upsala and Stockholm, Almovist and Wiksell.)

## N.—SWITZERLAND.

1. **Agricultural Union of Switzerland. Fifteenth Annual Report**. (Berne, K. J. Wyss.)
2. **Rents in the City of Zürich**, 1907 to 1911. (Zürich, Rascher and Co.)

## O.—BRAZIL.

1. **Bulletin of the Department of Labour**, No. 4, 1912. (St. Paul, Brazil.)